E
113
.C32

The Life of Columbus.

Nicolau Florent

Regina Mane

Coat-of-Arms
of the
Perestrello Family.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.
Chap. E113 Copyright No.
Shelf C32
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

THE WIFE OF COLUMBUS.

WITH

GENEALOGICAL TREE

OF THE

PERESTRELLO AND MONIZ FAMILIES.

BY

NICOLAU FLORENTINO

AND

REGINA MANEY.

NEW YORK:

PRESS OF STETTINER, LAMBERT & CO.,

22, 24 & 26 Reade Street.

1893.

E 113
.C32

COPYRIGHT,
1893.

TO THE WOMEN OF AMERICA.

ABOUT a year ago the *American Register*, of which we were for many years the Spanish and Portuguese correspondent, copied a paragraph from the *Inter-Ocean* to the effect that while tons upon tons of paper had been and were being used to glorify Columbus, nobody thought of employing a single sheet for the purpose of telling the world something about Columbus' wife.

That paragraph attracted our serious attention. We felt sure it must have been penned by a woman. Here were we, right at the fountain-head, with exceptional facilities for gathering data about that wife—we being not only a Portuguese journalist, but also a friend of descendants of her father's family, the Perestrellos, now living in Lisbon. Why shouldn't we undertake to find out something about this Portuguese woman and the influence she might have exercised upon the great navigator ?

We immediately set about this congenial task, beginning with the pedigree of the Perestrello family.

With that pedigree our difficulties began. Dates and names would not agree, yet it seemed impossible that the very Perestrello family should be in error concerning their ancestors !

Our first step had, of course, been to apply to our friend Senhora Donna Eugenia de Souza and her husband, Senhor Sebastian de Perestrello, for all the information they possessed. Most courteously did they give it, but oh ! it had never occurred to them to compare and analyze ; with the easy acquiescence characteristic of these latitudes, they had taken all the family traditions for granted !

It fell to our lot to dispel long and proudly cherished illusions, to our great regret so far as our friends are concerned, but with much satisfaction at having been instrumental in demonstrating a few historical errors and establishing a few historical facts. Besides, it became almost a duty to do so, as we had ourselves unwittingly given those errors a still wider circulation.

In March, 1892, our distinguished and, what is much more to the point, most efficient and practical minister at the Portuguese court, General George S. Batcheller, thought he could best serve the purposes of the Special Foreign Agent of the United States Treasury Department for the World's Columbian Exposition, Major Fred. Brackett, by introducing him to us.

Major Brackett was accompanied by Mr. Sterling Heilig, of Philadelphia, and Mr. Stoddard Dewey. To this last-named gentleman we gave, as a souvenir of his visit to us, the paper written by Senhora Donna Eugenia de Souza Perestrello concerning the wife of Columbus and her father, Bartholomew Perestrello.

Before we had positively ascertained those statements to be erroneous, Mr. Stoddard Dewey had made use of them.

After several fruitless consultations with Senhor Sebastian de Perestrello and his family, we decided to apply to our learned friend, Senhor Gabriel Pereira, Director of the National Library at Lisbon. He furnished us heaps and stacks of Columbus literature—the manuscript "Genealogia de Villas Boas," that treats of all the prominent Madeira families of that time; but he opened our Winsor's book on Columbus at the page where that author intimates that much that was new could probably be learned about Columbus from documents, not yet examined, in the Torre do Tombo (the national archives).

That hint of our compatriot, indorsed, so to speak, by the distinguished librarian, was precious indeed; it became doubly so when Senhor Pereira added that "Nicolau Florentino" was just then actively engaged in hunting up old documents bearing on the Columbian epoch in the Torre do Tombo.

It so happened that the Viscount Sanches de Baena, the highest authority in Portugal on matters genealogical, was deterred by a death in his family from giving us the assistance we had hoped for; but he sent us a letter of introduction to his friend, the Regent of the Bemfica High School, Senhor Antonio Maria de Freitas, who modestly conceals his identity under the celebrated *nom-de-plume* of "Nicolau Florentino."

Thus it came to pass that "Nicolau Florentino" and "we" joined forces in trying to get at the truth concerning the wife of Columbus. And we found it, to the intense disgust, no doubt, of many who would much have preferred the legend to the naked historical fact. We have established the time and place of his marriage, along with other data, and we have found much about Columbus that is entirely new.

Our little work on the wife of Columbus and her ancestors, Italian as well as Portuguese, dedicated to the women of America who first thought of including the wife of the discoverer in the homage paid him, will soon be followed by a more extensive work on Columbus, containing entirely new material lately discovered in the Torre do Tombo of Lisbon, and will prove a revelation to the student of history.

REGINA MANEY.

LISBON, September, 1892.

PREFACE.

THIS present small work is part of a larger one we began a year ago, treating of the illustrious navigator Christopher Columbus and every matter of interest relating to him, including not only his maritime successes, but also his home life. Much has been written about the former; the latter, however, had not, up to date, received the special notice it deserved, because the difficulties of genealogical and biographical investigations were immense. We could only overcome them, after this long lapse of time, by gathering many references dispersed among official documents and unpublished manuscripts obtained with much trouble and at no small sacrifice.

It will be almost impossible for us to present our work complete before the next five or six months; however, that part of it relating to Donna Philippa Moniz de Perestrello, wife of Christopher Columbus, was much advanced. On learning that the women of America entertained the laudable purpose to do honor to the memory of the great discoverer's sympathetic companion, we at once set about to conclude this part of our work.

We did so with the intention of rendering most sincere homage to those ladies who did not forget that at Columbus' side had lived a devoted wife, whom a cruel fate had destined to share with him only the adversities of his earlier years. Of course we were influenced by the patriotic desire to contribute all in our power to glorify the memory of a Portuguese lady—a strong bond between Portugal and the other countries interested in the commemoration of the centenary of the discovery of America.

Mrs. Regina Maney, who also worked much to obtain items concerning the wife of Christopher Columbus—and, to her honor be it said, with great enthusiasm—consented to join us in our labors, and afterward to translate our joint work into English, charging herself with the agreeable task of having it reach its destiny.

We trust that our joint effort may meet with a favorable reception, such as is to be hoped for from the great nation that first conceived the idea of thus honoring the memory of Columbus. We also trust that the homage we here render the women of America will be interpreted as a token of deepest sympathy and respect.

NICOLAU FLORENTINO.

LISBON, August, 1892.

PRELIMINARY REFLECTIONS.

FOR more than a year past we have been trying to define the true position of Christopher Columbus in the maritime enterprises of the fifteenth century, and his relations with Portugal, where he married and where he laid the foundation for all the honor and glory he afterward gathered in the New World.

This palpitant theme, to-day of the greatest interest and importance, enticed us more through our desire to form an accurate judgment on the discussions raised about it than through the ambitious pretension to be some day able to decide with authority on which side reason and truth might be.

Still, even if the result of our researches and reflections should turn out to be so complete as to justify such a presumption, we would yet have to be convinced that this, our possible result, would meet with a better fate than the studies elaborated by the pens of much superior authorities have met with up to date.

Several of those studies, of great value on account of their extensive criticism and investigation, although they do not definitely settle the rigorous outlines of Columbus, have already led us to important conclusions by forming the necessary basis for a future edifice, the conscientiously exact compass for a new order of interesting and profitable works.

But what did happen to these very studies? The same that happens to all efforts at rectification of any given point or person of the history of any country; the same that will happen when the investigations now being carried on about the famous Genoese shall be declared closed, after having perfected his efforts of to-day with the

triumphal discoveries of to-morrow, without, however, in the least detracting from his fame as cosmographer and navigator.

In our present epoch the historian works for the simple question of personal conscience and artistic taste. That is to say, he works like all people whose horizons of activity and moral perspective are bounded by the walls of an office where they pass a few hours in intimate routine life, or the cabinet of an idler who creates a world of his own, peopled with cheerful visions of glory.

Nothing else. The civic reach of his work; the fecundating quality of his mind decimated drop by drop; the just valuation of his intellectual strife, in which he must of necessity peruse dozens of pages of falsity in order to extract from them two lines of truth, stirring up and sifting fables upon fables out of the fireplace of tradition—all this, which should insure the historian the ambitioned palm of his humanitarian mission, has no meaning for the society of the present, which masks its indifference for the searcher after historical truth in amiable words and outward show of appreciation.

For a historian to err in his statements means ignorance of the epoch in which he lives and works. But the knowledge and understanding of his times is as indispensable to him as that of the individual he wants to keep before future generations; that is, if he prefers to put himself in direct contact with popular spirit instead of only occupying a place of honor on a shelf in the library of some savant.

Thus it comes about that the avowedly harsh and difficult work of collecting and assimilating historical facts produces sometimes very small results when it comes to preparing these results for presentation to the public; that is, if it be exacted of the historian that he conciliate truth with the literary tastes and the ideas of his epoch.

Here is the difference in the sphere of action between the work of a historian who penetrated into cloisters and archives in order to live in closest communion with the past, resurrected by him in admirable truth of form and palpitation of life, and the other who lives ever in the present, in that he will use his burin only to evoke from the golden past just so much sound as will suit the taste, the be-

liefs, and even the idealism of the contemporaries who are to read him.

The one who wrote, isolated from the world, between rows of tombstones, made an artistic reproduction which few are capable of admiring and fewer still can understand ; while there is no doubt that the one who only sketched history, without losing sight of the capricious movings of his epoch, obtained a vastly superior amount of sympathy and educational influence.

There is no disguising the fact that hardly any, or few, morally so unwholesome phases like that of the last few years have traversed our society. This is due to the excessive development of the nervous system over the muscular one. We even applaud those who search in a suicide for the romance that is not to be encountered in the hard reality of life, unless it be philtered across fantastic pages which were thus changed into an indispensable article to point a moral.

Under such conditions what result can a work on historical rectifications expect—a work cold by reason of its documents, traced at right angles, and proclaimed in austere and cathedratical voice, natural consequence of conviction of truth and indignation at falsehood ?

When public opinion in its growing morbidness becomes more and more thirsty and insatiable after legends and fictions, who will dare to hope for victory by destroying part of its fatal repast ?

The one who presumes to do so will certainly have to take into account two things : the offensive doubt of the intentions that animate him, and the necessity he will be placed under of having to corroborate officially even the most minute circumstances that help to destroy the legend, though that legend was taken hold of and paraphrased without any proof, document, or witness even !

And, when he finally has gained his point, society will say: "Very good ; it seems that you did not tell a lie. But do keep your truth to yourself. Nobody asked you for it, and I prefer the false traditions of my forefathers."

Of a truth, in almost every case we have seen one legend substi-

tuted by another in the dominion of tradition registered in old as well as modern writings. Only rarely have we seen a legend substituted by history, and then never in the hearty, enthusiastic fashion of the former.

There are pages of conscientious indication and posthumous justice, but they represent hardly more than a personal declaration, and as such are of personal value only, depending on discretional quotation of either optimism or pessimism.

The very corrections of ephemerides, that by the changing of an algarism would in no wise alter the essence of a fact, as happens in many cases, have not been able (except in a very few instances) to overcome the passionate obstinacy with which the public will cling to the transmission, verbal or written, of the time-honored stories, once it has accepted them.

We do not expect that our work on Columbus will meet with a better fate than others published up to date on the same subject. So far we are not much ahead of them in our researches, if we except the confirmation of some doubtful points, and the more correct boundary lines of the Portuguese seas and colonies as against those of Castile in the times of Christopher Columbus and his son Don Diego.

We prefer, however, to sacrifice the occasion that offers to publish these notes now to the duty we feel under not to close our investigation precipitately. We decided only to detach the part that refers to the Moniz and Perestrello families, from the alliance of which issued Donna Philippa Moniz de Mello, wife of the illustrious navigator.

It is a patriotic sentiment that animates us in arriving at this decision. We desire to participate in the joys of the Spanish peoples of both hemispheres, to whom the Portuguese are allied by the ties of language and consanguinity.

If Portugal cannot, as Spain can, boast of having associated herself with Christopher Columbus in his crusade to the New World, and though there might still be some who would like to throw doubts upon her glorious daring in all maritime enterprises, Portugal nev-

ertheless is intimately associated, through the very best of her blood, with the man who, after four centuries of a great historical record, is going to have the most stirring and stimulating apotheosis of modern times.

The festivities in honor of Columbus, husband of Donna Philippa Moniz de Mello, aside from their veritably universal character, cannot but cause in the Portuguese heart the holy and intimate rejoicing of a "Festa de familia"!

NICOLAU FLORENTINO.

LISBON, July, 1892.

THE WIFE OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS.

I.

THE MONIZ FAMILY, THEIR ORIGIN, GLORIOUS HISTORICAL RECORD, AND PEDIGREE DOWN TO DONNA ISABEL MONIZ, THIRD WIFE OF BARTHOLOMEW PERESTRELLO, AND MOTHER-IN-LAW OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS.

THE name of Moniz, during the first year of its appearance in Portugal, figures only in its legitimate derivation as patronymic of the valiant Dom Muninho Viegas, called "The Gascon" from his being a native of Gascony. Dom Muninho came to Portugal during the reign of Don Ramiro III., King of Leon, accompanied by two sons, who left a no less glorious name than their father in the intrepid conquest of the lands along the Douro.[1]

The naturalization of the Moniz family coincides with that of the family Guédon, also a French name,[2] which changed into Guedes.

[1] These two sons were called Egas Moniz and Garcia Moniz, names which were also used later on by other persons of this family. The Count of Barcellos and others affirm that with this Dom Muninho came also a brother of his, Dom Sesinando, who became bishop of Oporto. Those same authors further assert that Egas Moniz, married to Donna Toda Hermiquez Alboasar, a descendant of Dom Ramiro, is the grandfather of Egas Moniz, tutor and governor of Portugal's first king, Dom Affonso Henriques.

[2] "Armorial Universel," par Mr. Gouffroy d'Eschavanes, Paris, 1844, vol. i., page 205.

Dom Muninho was married to Donna Valida Trocosendes, daughter of Trocosendo Guedas, the name into which Guédon had already degenerated owing to various alliances, Dom Trocosendo being the recognized founder of the Portuguese family of Guedes.

The vigorous blood of the Gascon, however, did not confine itself to the small territorial limits of Portugal, at that time striving for national life and independence from Spain.

In the roving, ever-changing life of the peoples of the Iberian Peninsula, which life they characteristically more or less always continued in spite of the political line laid down by the Count Dom Henrique (a line enlarged and consolidated by the successors of this prince), the Monizes, like many others, spread themselves over the land, as far even as the Pyrenees. If, by way of contrast as it were, we were to follow them in the changes brought about by the adventurous spirit of that period, we should certainly find in Gascony, the native country of Dom Muninho, blood relations of his, proud of being heirs of his name and fame.

As it is, even in the thirteenth century the name of Moniz was a distinguished one in Castile, the genealogical root being clearly established. The following century furnishes us, among others, proofs of how the Monizes sustained in Castile, as well as in Portugal, the moral inheritance of their glorious progenitor, those of Dom Diogo Moniz, Master of the Order of San Thiago, in 1306, and of Dom Pedro Moniz,[1] Master of the Order of Calatrava and later on of

[1] Some writers call Pedro Moniz de Godoy, Pedro Nunes, because they adopted the usual ancient method of preferring the patronymic Nunes, derived from Nuno Fernandes, father of the valiant Master of San Thiago.

During several centuries it was the custom in Portugal to call the children after the baptismal name of the father. For instance: Moniz, derived from Moninho; Gonzales, from Gonsalvo; Alvares, from Alvaro; Henriques, from Henrique; Adefonsiades, from Affonso. Dom Sancho I. of Portugal, son of Dom Affonso Henriques, is designated in the old state papers as Sancho Adefonsiades. In this particular the Portuguese closely followed the example of the old Latins, the language of both peoples being most intimately

San Thiago, which position of high honor he held up to his death on the 5th of October, 1385, on the battlefield of Valverde, where he and the Master of Alcántara commanded the Spanish army, while Dom Nuno Alvares Pereira led the Portuguese forces.

It is, however, no easy task to establish a strict line of succession from Dom Muninho down to the end of the fourteenth century. In the early years of the Portuguese monarchy it preserved itself tolerably clear, several writers asserting even that Mem Moniz (from 1130 to 1160), brother of Egas Moniz the Blessed, already used the coat-of-arms of the Moniz family. However, even if we admit this fact, nevertheless, and in spite of it, in those times the name was still patronymic.[1]

The Moniz family, whose ancient splendor had perhaps diminished somewhat in course of time, were lost sight of temporarily, absorbed into various alliances with other families, such as the Athaydes, the Alvarengas, the Coelhos,[2] etc.; only with the brilliant dawn of the fifteenth century appear the first links of a genealogical chain never to be interrupted again, in spite of the powerful intermingling with other blood to which it was necessarily subjected.[3]

---

related. Whenever there was any difficulty in forming a surname for the son out of the baptismal name of the father, they had recourse to the name of the grandfather; for instance, Alcides, that is, Hercules, grandchild of Alceus.—R. M.

[1] Egas Moniz also was son of a Muninho, Muninho Hermiquez.

The coat-of-arms of the Moniz family is: On a blue field five golden stars, forming a Saint Andrew's cross, and for crest a blue leopard with a star like those on the escutcheon on its head.

[2] In the most authentic writings on nobility we read that of the known descendants of Dom Muninho Viegas, "The Gascon," a Dom Martinho Viegas entered the Athayde family, joining their name to his. This Martinho Viegas de Athayde is supposed to be a grandson of Egas Moniz, and it is demonstrated beyond any doubt that he was the sixth ancestor of the first Count of Athougia.

[3] Moreover, among other historical vestiges which go to prove that the absorption was not complete, we will note the following: Frey Marcos da

At that epoch we meet with three Monizes: the two brothers Vasco and Garcia Moniz, and their sister, Donna Leonor Moniz. The first, Vasco Moniz, is the starting point of an uninterrupted succession of Monizes, to which belongs Donna Isabel, wife of Bartholomew Perestrello. We shall return to him anon.

The second we named—though in point of fact he was the last in order of birth—Garcia Martins Moniz, was celebrated for his great loyalty and military valor. The expedition to Ceuta once planned, Garcia Moniz distinguished himself by his energetic activity in the preparations for the enterprise, and accompanied to Africa Dom Henrique, whose first years he had guided with watchful solicitude, never leaving him for a moment, whether as watchful guard in the indiscretions of his youth, or as devoted companion in the perils of his toilsome manhood.

Many and successive proofs of devotion, accompanied by the halo of the prestige accorded him as a swordsman of the first rank, gave Garcia Moniz an immense moral influence over the Infante, which influence revealed itself, together with the prodigious strength of his arm, in the following episode of the taking of Ceuta: Dom Henrique, accompanied by some men-at-arms, burst through the portals of the city, and found himself involved in the skirmish which arose between the Moors and the first Portuguese that had entered. A moment came in which the fight turned to serious disadvantage for the

---

Silva, the chronicler of St. Francisco, as well as divers other authors, write that in the first cloister of the convent of San Francisco in Lisbon, on going down the stairs leading from the porter's lodge to the left, and leaning against the arch of the chapel, could be read in Latin the following inscription, which we give here in English:

> "In honor and praise of the King of Kings and the Most Blessed Virgin Mother, and of the Blessed Paranymph Gabriel, Archangel, John Moniz, priest and treasurer of the most illustrious King of Portugal, built this cloister, chapel, and chapter, and may his soul rest in peace. 1310."

This date, 1310, is equivalent to 1272 from the birth of Christ.

Portuguese, because the Infante, thrusting himself into the streets of Ceuta, found himself face to face with a troop of the enemy that would surely have crushed him, being in much superior numbers to our forces. The news even spread outside the walls that Dom Henrique [1] had fallen mortally wounded in the combat.

Garcia Moniz, who was standing by the side of Dom John I., on hearing such news uttered a roar of vengeance, rushed, wild with grief and despair, through one of the gates filled with slain, cut his way through them like one of the legendary archangels of combat, until he came upon the Infante, who, so far from having fallen, almost single-handed disputed with the Moors their flash of victory. He disentangled the Infante from the assailants who were gradually narrowing the circle around him, took him severely to task for his temerity, and succeeded in rescuing the young prince from the danger which had intoxicated and rendered him deaf to all the counsels of his other companions. This heroic act obtained for Garcia Moniz the friendship of Dom John I. and the admiration of every one who had witnessed it.

However, nothing more do we know of the brave Portuguese except his prodigious prowesses in combat and his intimate relations

[1] Some Portuguese writers lately discussed and threw doubts over the glories of Dom Henrique as the grand promoter and soul of the maritime enterprises of Portugal. In defence of the Infante, however, arise, apart from old and modern historians of authority, official documents that the most aggressive and destructive critics will never be able to set aside. The people who hold him responsible for the misfortunes of his brother Dom Pedro, regent of the kingdom during the minority of Dom Affonso V., and those of his other brother, Dom Fernando, who died a prisoner in Tangiers, are the only ones who may have some ground for their accusation. Love for his family was at an early age absorbed in the heart of the Infante Dom Henrique by the ambition to aggrandize his country beyond the seas.

Should this accusation be proved, a very unsatisfactory note will be the result as far as the character of the man goes; but the grand profile of the hero to whom Portugal owes the most eminent services will remain on the page of history in undiminished glory to be eternally venerated.—R. M.

with the Infante Dom Henrique. We do not even know whether he was married or left succession.

Donna Leonor Moniz became the second wife of Gil Ayres, private secretary of the Condestavel Dom Nuno Alvares Pereira, and his first standard bearer. Different opinions exist, however, as to this latter fact. Gil Ayres was buried in the monastery of the Carmo in Lisbon, in the chapel of Our Lady of Pity.[1]

From this marriage issued four sons, who were largely and honorably represented in the military and naval enterprises of Portugal in the fifteenth century.

We will only specialize Vasco Gil Moniz. His second wife was Donna Leonor de Lusignan, who came from Castile as lady-in-waiting to the Infanta Isabel, wife of the Infante Dom Pedro, Duke of Coimbra. Donna Leonor was a daughter of Phebo Lusignan, a descendant of the kings of Cyprus. It is from this lateral branch of the Monizes that descends the great patriot Phebo Moniz, who in 1580 distinguished himself by his indignation and his fearless rising against the vile delivery of the kingdom into the hands of the despotic Philips.[2]

Ending with this digression, which we think ought not to have been omitted, we return to Vasco Martins Moniz, in whom we find once more the genealogical thread of Dom Muninho Viegas, never again to be lost, down to Donna Isabel Moniz.

Vasco Moniz was a noble of great renown in the reign of Dom John I. He was comptroller of the household of the Infante Dom Henrique. He also assisted, like his brother Garcia, at the siege of Ceuta, coming in for a large part of the glory there obtained by the

---

[1] This chapel was built by Gil Ayres, and passed, he not having any children by his first wife, to his descendants by his second one, Donna Leonor Moniz.

[2] Phebo Moniz was buried in the chapel erected by his ancestor, Gil Ayres. The counts of Sampaio are to-day the direct descendants of the famous Portuguese through a great-granddaughter of his, Donna Luiza Moniz de Torres e Lusignan, who inherited in direct line the house of the last Phebo Moniz.

Portuguese. He married Donna Beatriz Pereira, daughter of Paio Pereira, noble of the royal household, and of Donna Leonor Formosa. He had four sons, the line of succession continuing in the first-born, Henrique Moniz.[1]

Henrique Moniz, governor of Silves, married twice, his second wife being Donna Ignez Pereira, daughter of Dom Diogo Alvares Pereira.[2]

From this marriage issued five children, and it was the second in the order of birth, Vasco Martins Moniz,[3] who went to the island of Madeira, which had then already become a centre of considerable industrial activity and a sort of encampment for the exploration of the African coasts, as well as a station for sounding the way that might lead to the coveted regions of the Orient.

Vasco Moniz, father of Donna Isabel Moniz, the wife of Bartholomew Perestrello, was not one of those vulgar adventurers wh at that epoch roved over "terra marique" in search of fortune.

---

[1] One of those four sons, by name Vasco Moniz, married Donna Aldonça Cabral; from this union sprang Donna Joanna Pereira, wife of the first Viceroy of India, Dom Francisco d'Almeida. The Marquises of Angeja descend from Vasco Moniz. Donna Beatriz, or Brites, Pereira was not a legitimate child, but her legitimation is to be found in the respective register, vol. iii., p. 105.

[2] Diogo Alvares Pereira, cousin of the Condestavel, Grand Master of the Order of San Thiago, and governor of the household of the Infante Dom John, son of the King Dom John I., married Donna Mecia de Rezende, lady-in-waiting to Queen Philippa; she was a daughter of Fernan Vasques de Rezende, and bore her husband three children, two daughters and a son. The eldest, Donna Isabel, became the wife of Dom Alvaro de Castro, governor of Sabugal, known under the cognomen "He of the Tower." The second daughter, Donna Ignez, married Gonçales Nunõ Baretto, governor of Faro. The son, Affonso Pereira, master of the hounds to the king, inherited as his first wife's marriage portion the governorship of the fortress of Santarem, near Lisbon.

[3] From Vasco Martins Moniz proceed the so-called Madeira Monizes. The so-called Algarve Monizes descend from Gil Ayres.—R. M.

Through the intercession of his father he entered, still very young, the service of the royal household, where he held the position of gentleman groom attached to the gentlemen-in-waiting. He was much esteemed by Dom Affonso V., in the train of whom he fought in the African wars, so renowned in those times through the conquests of Alcacer-Ceguer, Tanger, and Arzilla, taking part to the last in the fate of the unhappy monarch.

He installed himself in the city of Machico, where he distinguished himself among Portuguese and foreigners by his generosity, his noble bearing on all occasions, and the princely style of living in his house, the commodities and attractions of which, however, did not enervate him; on the contrary, whenever the king or the country claimed his services, he left his family to aid with his arm and very often with his purse.

Vasco Martins Moniz deserves the veneration of posterity on many accounts; but there is, above all, one trait in his character, so rare and sublime, so superior to any conquest by sword or compass, that we will not follow him as minutely as we did his ancestors on the battlefield, in order to more leisurely admire him as a man, in the love he bore his mother. Under the armor of the warrior beat the tender heart of a child in its most filial devotion.

Whether engaged in the absorbing attentions required of him in battles, or enjoying the tranquil life at his mansion, surrounded by his numerous progeny, Vasco Moniz always remembered with liveliest gratitude the woman to whom he owed his life, and from whose side the tempestuous agitations of the times had early separated him. His lifework left him but few moments to console her in her tearful widowhood and anxiety about her absent sons, whom the vicissitudes of life had torn from her side. In his last years, the quietest of his eventful existence, Vasco Moniz often went to visit his mother, Donna Ignez de Menezes, at the city of Torron, where she lived to extreme old age. Vasco, feeling that his end was approaching, gathered up his remaining strength in order to cross the sea, left the noisy life of Machico, and took refuge with his mother. He died in

her arms, leaving a will signed and sealed, dated September 5th, 1489, in which he entailed the third part of his estate for his first-born son.

He was married three times, always in the island of Madeira. The first marriage was without issue; of the second there were born three sons, who did nothing to break the records and traditions of their ancestors. His third wife was Donna Juanna Teixeira, the legitimate daughter of the celebrated Lançarote Teixeira, "O Velho"[1] (the old man), and of Donna Beatriz de Goes, thus being on the paternal side grandchild of the valorous navigator, Tristan Vaz,[2] on the

[1] Lançarote Teixeira, the founder of a most numerous and distinguished family, was a son of Tristan Vaz, one of the heroes of Tangier and Ceuta, and companion of Zarco in the discovery of the Madeiran archipelago.

Lançarote Teixera was an admirable typical reproduction of the great mediæval knights, and enjoyed universal fame in the arts and accomplishments of knighthood. High personages flocked to Machico, the city where he resided, to learn from and to admire him in the brilliant tournaments which took place between Machico and Santa Cruz, his enormous fortune permitting him to give the greatest pomp and brilliancy to these manly sports.

[2] Tristan Vaz, gentleman of the household of the Infante Dom Henrique, and donee (having received it as a gift from the crown) of the jurisdiction over Machico, was a celebrated navigator as well as a warrior. He accompanied the Infante in divers journeys to Africa, performing acts of high courage at the storming of Ceuta and the siege of Tangier, where Dom Henrique himself knighted him. On this prince's turning his attention and prodigious activity toward the enterprises that unveiled to Portugal the precious secrets of the deep, he encountered in Tristan Vaz one of the most zealous assistants in his immortal work.

In 1418, while sailing in company with Gonçalves Zarco, Tristan Vaz discovered the island of Porto Santo, and in the following year that of Madeira.

One of his seven daughters, Donna Anna Teixeira, was the cause of Tristan Vaz committing a cruel act which drew upon his head the gravest consequences. Donna Anna and a young noble, by name Simon Barradas, loved each other with ardent affection, but the father opposed a most determined resistance. The young people continued to see each other by stealth,

mother's side of Dom John de Rego and of Donna Brites de Goes, of the family of the well-known Portuguese chronicler, Damian de Goes.

The third marriage of Vasco Martins was a most prolific one; some of the sons, as for instance the titular bishop of Anel, Dom Christoval Moniz, upheld and amplified the parchments of this most ancient family by most elevated personal bravery and gallantry, penetrated as they were with a sense of the duty they owed their country and the memory of their ancestors as heirs of their name and their wealth.

Vasco Martins Moniz also left an illegitimate son, Vasco Moniz Barreto by name, who became a doctor-at-law and was highly appreciated in his profession.

One of the fruits of the third marriage was a daughter, Donna Isabel Moniz, third wife of Bartholomew Perestrello, of whom we shall treat more particularly when we record the life of her husband.

---

until one day Tristan, coming upon them, caused the young man to disappear without any one's knowing of his fate nor the cause of it. Years afterward it was discovered that Donna Anna's lover had been thrust into a large subterranean vault, where he had been subjected to the hard and degrading punishment of the mill, seated on an ass, until he died. The case was reported to the king, who ordered Tristan to appear before him immediately, accompanied by his daughter Anna.

Both came. The king gave Donna Anna in marriage to a noble under his protection, and ordered the father to be put in irons. Shortly after the latter was tried and sentenced to lose his governorship, besides being exiled to Prince's Island. On the expiration of his term of exile he returned to Portugal, where his great age and the remembrance of his past services finally moved the king to pardon him and to give him back Machico, which he again governed for some time until he died, in 1470, at Silves, in the province of Algarve, whither he had gone on family business. He was 85 years old at his death, having been born in 1385.

II.

GENERAL APPRECIATIONS CONCERNING THE FOREIGN ELEMENT IN PORTUGAL—THE FIRST KNOWN ANCESTOR OF THE PERESTRELLO FAMILY—HISTORICAL-GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS ITALIAN FAMILY IN PORTUGAL—BARTHOLOMEW PERESTRELLO, FATHER-IN-LAW OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS—HIS TRADITIONS AS NAVIGATOR AND DISCOVERER OF THE ISLAND OF PORTO SANTO.

IN the history of foreign immigration into the Iberian Peninsula we note two distinct and characteristic movements. One, coming from France, crossing the Pyrenees, predominated during the long and difficult gestation of the modern Iberian states. The other, with its focus in Italy, and transmitted through the Mediterranean, accompanied them in their age of virility, and followed them through the seas, thus opening their territorial circle to the furthest regions of the globe. France is grandly represented in Peninsular history by reason of its efficacious fellow-soldiership in the wars against the Moorish dominion, just as is Italy through the great transatlantic explorations of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. In the strifes out of which it was born, Portugal opened to the first a field of triumphs and the way to the best individual interests; constituted afterward the first maritime and commercial emporium of Europe, it offered Italy a new attraction which enabled it to recover part of its old tradition of "Queen of the Seas," and also

opened a field of productive activity for its most varied personal ambitions.

We specify France and Italy in those two immigratory movements, because both nations occupied, respectively, the most prominent place in them. The relations of both powers with us were always of a friendly character, and sometimes sincere—a matter for admiration in epochs of less scrupulous strife after fame and fortune; and, finally, because, aside from their pronounced moral influence, their blood was infused into ours, undoubted vestiges existing to this day all over the country.

On this side of the Pyrenees, in spite of the political division and of divers dynastic disturbances, the changing about of the people was so continual, and so well recognized was the mutual assistance rendered each other in different collisions by the Portuguese and the Spanish people, that really, in this case, the Portuguese cannot consider Spain a foreign nation.

While calling attention to the rare sincerity of the international relations with those two countries, collectively or individually considered, we will leave to be inferred numerous exceptions, which we shall take care not to particularize, though it would be an easy matter for us to do so.

Since the very beginning of its national existence, Portugal, in most cases, was not treated with the generous and fraternal confidence with which it opened its arms to foreigners, never exacting passports or credentials.

Portugal gave them always affectionate shelter, afforded them advantageous matrimonial alliances, furnished them with material for work, opened them the way to large fortunes, and gave them titles of nobility as a finishing touch to its profuse hospitality.

The Portuguese people never established odious differences between those who fought fraternally at their side, by land and by sea, and those who only explored the many sources of wealth of the country in different branches of business, from dominions and commanderies to marriage alliances with the great houses. The hero

and the business man alike always were made welcome. The way to realization of their aspirations was made easy alike to the one and to the other, without inquiry as to whence they came, or scrutiny as to their intentions.

Did they assert they were nobles of the highest extraction, immediately, without any further ado, they were furnished with an official document, a sort of passport, which opened to them the portals of the great mansions where large marriage portions were to be met, and which led them to the employments and emoluments of the public treasury, then always full to overflowing, like Amalthea of old.

They were not nobles, or had no one that would accredit them to be such ? The royal munificence discovered a service or generically invoked services, so as to be able to give them parchment diplomas and to adorn them with a coat-of-arms.

"Many came to these kingdoms covered with lice, and went away adorned with finest clothes, like coxcombs," says an old writer.[1]

That they should have left Portugal dressed like fops, very well —much good may it have done them ! Lucky those on whom fortune smiled in alien land, their adopted country. But the worst is that this land of their adoption, the subject of the nicest rhetoric, not very seldom received ingratitude and discredit in payment of its confiding hospitality.

An extremely docile, sociable, and confiding temperament draws upon nations the same fatal consequences as upon persons. The man who opens wide his doors to a stranger and admits him to the intimacy of his home, in nothing differs from a nation that permits a strange element to enter its organic mechanism, that element possessing neither affinity of sentiments nor community of interests.

In such a case the whole thing is a game at hazards—the chances

[1] This transcription of an old text, and the reflections the author makes upon it, are much more opportune than would appear at first sight. We believe they were inspired much on account of what happened at the epoch mentioned, but much more on account of more recent events, of which the Portuguese press has treated with as much firmness as indignation.—R. M.

of winning are inferior to those of losing ; so much inferior are they, indeed, that small is the percentage of those who were of advantage to Portugal in this process of acclimatization of exotic beings.

During many centuries Portugal experienced, and it is still experiencing, the demonstrative results of this profound truth. Many services has it received from foreigners, but it can proudly affirm that it has paid them to the full, save, naturally, the exceptions there might be, through force of circumstances, that began by making victims of the most eminent Portuguese. Few, however, gratefully acknowledged the reception and the services Portugal rendered them ; or, if they did remember them, it was only to discredit and depreciate the country.

If Portugal were to study thoroughly her divers moral and economical crises, as well as some international complications that cost her very dear, she could not charge them exclusively to the purely national element; through some she passed, even, where the latter took up a simply tolerating attitude, being sometimes passive, at other times hardly conscious.

If, on the other hand, the Portuguese were to seek for victims of those catastrophes, they would only find the country, and with it those who were indissolubly linked to it by a hut, by a few acres of land, by a part of their heart and soul.

Instinctively we gave vent to these reflections as we folded the mass of papers and closed the old books we had waded through in search of the Perestrellos, who, however, did not cause us to make them. Not they ; on the contrary, the Perestrellos are honorable exceptions, who consubstantiated themselves in Portuguese blood. It was the whole terrific kaleidoscope which frequently caused us involuntarily to suspend our investigation, immersed as we were in profound meditation.

In order to reunite a private family like that of the Perestrellos, we stumbled upon many other dead and gone people, and we came to sudden stops before real surprises—here, follies that provoke our mirth · there, baseness that revolts us; yonder, misfortunes that

move us to tears; further still, traits of valor and civic virtue that exact our sincere admiration.

The Perestrellos, like everybody else, paid their tribute of frail humanity, so small, however, in comparison with the personal merits and brilliant services of some of the family, that it is hardly worth taking into account.

Nevertheless, the writings concerning the Perestrellos will have to be modified, history exacting this correction, in no wise, however, prejudicing the honorable family traditions.

Philippone, or Philip Palestrello, is the first Perestrello we encounter in Portugal, toward the end of the fourteenth century, among many other countrymen of his who came to this country in search of fortune.

Philippone was son of Messire Gabriele Palestrello, a native of the city of Placenzia, in Lombardy, and of his wife, Madama Bartholine Biforti,[1] who both died in the place of their birth and residence. We learn this through a justification Philippone presented to be exempted from a war contribution levied by Dom John I. to defray the costs of the maritime expedition to Ceuta.

Besides his descent, Philippone Palestrello proved by several witnesses, countrymen of his, that his ancestors in Italy were nobles entitled to wear armor—that is, of recognized nobility—a fact which exempted him from the aforesaid tribute.

This reclamation, appended to the respective Royal Letter Patent, is dated January 8th, 1399, and both those documents constitute the first and most sure chronological vestige encountered up to date of

[1] Other writers give her name as Bartholomine Biforti. In course of time the surname Biforti appears, in the very Perestrello family, written in different ways—Biforte, Bisforti. A granddaughter three generations removed of Gabriel and Bartholine called herself Brachiforti. She was Donna Leonor Perestrello Brachiforti, daughter of John Lopes Perestrello, and married to Gil Vicente da Maia. She died January 16th, 1451. Both she and her husband are buried in the church of the Capuchins in Carnota, and on their epitaph can be read very clearly that lady's name so written.

Philippone's existence in Portugal.[1] He lived in Oporto at that time, but in 1415 we find him residing in Lisbon and married already to a Portuguese lady, Donna Catharina de Mello, by whom he had four children, following in order of birth : Richarte, Donna Isabel, Donna Branca,[2] and Bartholomew.

Before, however, we begin the biographical study of the latter, let us refer to his elder brother and the distinguished progeny of whom he was the founder, as well as to his sisters, of whom we desire to give detailed information, as their destinies, besides offering a certain historical novelty, procured Richarte and Bartholomew one of the most valuable personal friendships of that epoch.

Richarte Palestrello became a priest and obtained the priorship of the parish of Santa Marinha in Lisbon, in those days perhaps the richest living in the whole archbishopric. By Beatriz Annes he had two sons, John Lopes Perestrello and Sebastian Perestrello, both legitimized[3] according to documents dated Cintra, July 11th, 1423.

---

[1] Jacintho de Pina Loureiro, perhaps the most conscientious of genealogists, who does not despise the most trifling indication, and who always bases his extensive work on irrefutable proofs and documents in the Torre de Tombo, tells us that the above document still existed at the beginning of the seventeenth century, in the possession of Donna Leonor Lobo Perestrello, who was then the wife of Diogo Saldanha, and that it was through it that it became known who were her ancestors and which the arms this family used in Italy.

The arms of the Perestrellos are: Escutcheon perpendicularly divided; on the first field, in gold, a purple lion set off with red; on the second, on silver field, a blue band traversing it; on it three stars, of eight points each, between six red roses, three and three in horizontal line. Crest: A lion like on the escutcheon, with an eight-pointed star on its shoulder.

[2] We give the exact name that is written in the Letters Patent legitimizing the children, passing over the orthographical variations we encounter in other genealogists.

[3] We adopt the successive modifications the surname suffered in Portugal according to the text of various writers.

Some authors even call him Raphael, alleging ignorance as to whom he

Of the younger son we could gather no information of particular interest. The elder, John Lopes Perestrello, who inherited his father's mansion, had early accredited himself by a long apprenticeship in the struggles on the sea. He was named captain of the *Fradeza*, one of the warships that formed the expedition to India in 1502, commanded by Vasco de Gama. He distinguished himself on that occasion in the fights with the people of Cochin. Returning from India with much booty, John Lopes Perestrello instituted in the province of Alemquer a large entailed estate, giving it the name "Of the Spaniard."

Two of his five sons, Raphael and Bartholomew, served in India with great distinction.[1] Raphael Perestrello started from Malacca to explore the Chinese coasts. He suffered various reverses, among others thirty days of imprisonment, which, however, did not hinder him from carrying hence an immense booty. Thanks to the illus-

---

married. There certainly existed the intention to conceal the truth in this changing of names, in order to avoid ironical comments on the origin of the entail "of the Spaniard." In spite of the facilities for legitimizing, there always fell upon the children of priests, principally upon those of the lower class, the evil eye of the moralists; and even to-day the fruits of transgressions of canonical laws are obliged to disguise their filiation into some other kind of relationship.

The genealogists managed to illude several generations with this pseudo-Raphael. The documents encountered by the authors dispel the foggy atmosphere purposely created, clearly showing one of the many subterfuges resorted to in other and similar cases. They rigorously determine the name, civil status, and profession of the father of the man who founded the entailed estate of "the Spaniard's."

We have positive reasons for asserting, in view of several most important facts, that all of the above was completely ignored by his very descendants. —R. M.

[1] This Bartholomew Perestrello received as recompense for his services the commissaryship of the royal treasury in Malacca, the governor being George de Mello Pereira d'Albuquerque.

trious reputation he acquired, he was again chosen to command one of the warships of the fleet in 1519 under the orders of George of Albuquerque.

We omit many other members of Richarte Perestrello's family, who all merit honorable mention, in order not to make this work too voluminous, deviating us from the purpose we traced. The children of John Lopes, thanks to the fortune of their father, seem to have all been left in excellent financial circumstances; among other documents we examined in the "Corpo Chronologico" of the Torre do Tombo, we came upon a royal order dated 21st of August, 1514, to pay to his daughter Donna Mecia Lopes Perestrello the sum of 310,760 reis that lady had advanced the royal administration.

The two sisters of Bartholomew Perestrello, Donna Isabel and Donna Branca, cohabited successively with the celebrated Archbishop of Lisbon, Dom Pedro de Noronha, a most notable personage by reason of the opulence of his style of living, and also on account of his high birth, since in his veins circulated the blood of Henry IV. of Castile and of Dom Fernando I. of Portugal.[1]

Those relations which would cause adverse criticism in our epoch, quite rigid in its social preconceptions as well as in an apparent intolerance with respect to civil and canonical laws, in those days were admitted on account of the example emanating from the very highest hierarchies.[2] There is no need whatever of our producing proofs for

---

[1] Dom Pedro de Noronha, as well as his brothers, were important personages. Dom Fernando, the second Count of Villa Real; Dom Sancho de Noronha, Count of Odemira; and Donna Constanza de Noronha, second wife of Dom Affonso, first Duke of Braganza, constituted, with their brother the third Archbishop of Lisbon, a nucleus of social strength of the very highest order.

[2] It is quite well known that concubinage was not exclusively confined to Portugal, nor tolerated by law and usage only during the epoch we refer to. We need not, therefore, commit the indelicacy to enter our neighbor's domains in search of testimony to bear us out in this our assertion. Of the many proofs we have before us as to the sad social condition of woman in

REE OF THE
VITH ENTAIL OF ESTATE FOU

Gabriele Palestrello

Philippone Palestrello a

ırte Palestrello, a priest, rector of the Parish of Santa

es Perestrello, who instituted the entail "The Spaniar

PEDIGREE OF THE PERESTRELLO FAMILY,

WITH ENTAIL OF ESTATE FOUNDED BY THE FOURTH DESCENDANT.

Gabriele Palestrello and his wife, Bartholine Biforte.

Philippone Palestrello and his wife, Donna Catherina de Mello.

Richarte Palestrello, a priest, rector of the Pariah of Santa Marinha in Lisbon, had by Beatriz Annes, illegitimately, but legitimized:

John Lopes Perestrello, who instituted the entail "The Spaniards" in Alemquer, had by Philippa Lourenço the following legitimized children:

Antonio Perestrello, legitimized, Auditor of the Exchequer, by reason of this position being the marriage portion of his wife, Donna Violante Nunes, daughter of the Judge Privy Councillor, Miguel Nunes, and of Donna Guiomar Dias. This last built a chapel in the Church of the Martyrs in Lisbon, and was buried in it.

Donna Mecia Lopes Perestrello, who on August 21st, 1514, obtained a royal order for the payment of 310,760 reis loaned. Married Affonso Leiton, a citizen of Lisbon.
Children:

Donna Leonor Perestrello Biforti, married to Gil Vicente da Maya, who died January 16th, 1541; buried in Carnota with his wife.

Raphael Perestrello, served in India, starting from Malacca in a ship of Indian build, to explore the coasts of China. While Don Guiterres de Monroy was governor in Goà, Perestrello came to the relief of Goà, besieged by Hydalcan—text, page 17.

Bartholomew Perestrello served in India, and was a Commissary of the Treasury in Malacca, while George de Albuquerque was Commander-in-Chief in India. By Maria Rodrigues he had a legitimized son:

John Lopes Perestrello inherited the entailed estate, "The Spaniards," and had with Maria Ferreira, a spinster of low extraction:

Bartholomew Perestrello, Chancellor of the Exchequer, married Donna Maria Fernandes de Vasconcellos, daughter of John Fernandes de Vasconcellos.

Donna Catharina de Perestrello, wife of Privy Councillor Luiz Teixeira Lobo, teacher of grammar to Dom John III.

Donna Leonor Perestrello, who received on March 19th, 1523, two thousand crowns as a marriage portion on marrying her cousin, Dom Garcia de Albuquerque.

John Pereira Perestrello, married in Alemquer Donna Isabel Tavares, daughter of Sueiro Annes Moniz.

Donna Cecilia Perestrello, married to Mem Pagado da Silva. Left a son:

Donna Francisca Perestrello, married Pedro de Mesquita. Succession not known.

Ruy Lopes Perestrello, who was the first Perestrello to ask for and to obtain the royal diploma according him a family coat-of-arms, on May 15th, 1529 (Chancery of Dom John III., vol. xxvii., page 63). Married Donna Maria Alves de Moniz.

Antonio Perestrello, legitimized, married Donna Luiza de Vasconcellos, daughter and heiress of Paulo Dias de Fonseca and of his wife, Donna Maria Henriques de Lemos. Inherited the entailed estate.

Manuel Perestrello, proprietor of the Quinta da Ermigeira, married Donna Isabel Paula da Gama.

John Teixeira Lobo Amaral, married Donna Brites Botelho, daughter of Luiz Botelho, Judge of the Customs Department of the Treasury.

Estevan Soares Perestrello, married in Alemquer Donna Garcia de Almeida.

Donna Anna Perestrello, married Dom Francisco de Castro.

Donna Catharina da Silveira Perestrello, first wife of her cousin, Gil Vicente Perestrello da Maya.

Gil Vicente Perestrello da Maya, married twice. His first wife was his cousin, Donna Catharina da Silveira Perestrello, daughter of John Pereira Perestrello. The second wife was Donna Joanna de Vilhena, widow of Damian Gonzales de Guzman, a rich merchant, and daughter of Dom Fernando de Menezes, who was an illegitimate son of Dom Duarte, governor of India, by an Indian woman.

Pedro Moniz Perestrello; embarked for service in India in 1560.

Antonio Moniz Perestrello, served in India; embarked in 1562.

Sebastian Perestrello de Vasconcellos, heir to the entail, married his cousin, Donna Anna de Vilhena, daughter of Simon de Carvalho do Amaral, heir of the entail of Pinheiro, and of his wife, Donna Francisca de Villena, daughter of Gil Vicente Perestrello da Maya.

Donna Maria Perestrello, wife of Miguel Brandao Pereira, heiress of the Ermigeira, in Torres Vedras.

Donna Guiomar Lobo de Perestrello, married Manuel de Mesquita, who was captain of a royal galley on the occasion of the King Dom Sebastian's first expedition to Africa.

Francisco Tavares Perestrello.

Of the first marriage: John Pereira de Perestrello, who died in India, unmarried.

Of the second marriage: Donna Francisca de Vilhena, married to Simon Carvalho do Amaral, the heir of Pinheiro; their daughter, Donna Anna de Villena, married her cousin, Sebastian Perestrello de Vasconcellos.

Antonio Perestrello do Amaral e Vasconcellos, heir to the entail, had by Isabel Gomes a legitimized son:

Donna Isabel Maria Brandao Perestrello, wife of Simon Alvo Godinho.

Manuel de Mesquita Perestrello, who accompanied his father to Africa, and remained there charged with the exploration of the African coasts from the Cape of Good Hope to the Cape of Corrientes on the Mozambique coast. He left a log book highly prized for its clearness and exactness, much superior to what could have been expected of his times.

Donna Anna Leonor Lobo, wife of Diogo de Saldanha. It was in this lady's possession the papers were found that justified Philippone Palestrello's pretensions to nobility in Italy—made out in 1399.

John Perestrello do Amaral Ribeiro de Vasconcellos, heir to the entail, had by Luiza Thereza a legitimized daughter:

Pantaleon Alvo Brandao Perestrello, married Donna Maria de Azevedo.

Sancho Dias de Saldanha, captain of a troop of horse in the Wars of Independence, was killed in a skirmish with the Spaniards in Alemtejo in 1652. He married Donna Marianna Cabral.

Donna Thereza Josefa Perestrello do Amaral Ribeiro e Vasconcellos, heiress of her father and the entail, married the Privy Councillor André de Sousa Pinheiro.

José Alvo Brandao Godinho Pereira, gentleman of the royal household, married Donna Isabel Francisca de Sousa Cezar, daughter of Francisco Philippe da Silva Alcoforado, and of his wife, Donna Maria Rosa de Lencastre.

John Perestrello do Amaral Ribeiro de Vasconcellos de Fernandes e Sousa, married Donna Anna Joaquina da Costa de Sousa de Macedo. Inherited the entail. Had besides other sons:

Donna Maria Rosa Alvo Brandao Perestrello de Azevedo, second Viscountess de Balsamao, through her marriage with her cousin, Luiz Maximo Alfredo de Sousa Coutinho, the second Viscount de Balsamao.

Sebastian Perestrello do Amaral Ribeiro de Vasconcellos Fernandes e Sousa, contracted second nuptials with Donna Maria Eugenia de Sousa Perestrello, has succession, and an heir to the entailed estate of "The Spaniards."

Luiz José Alexander Pinto de Sousa Coutinho, third Viscount de Balsamao (married), died without succession.

Vasco Pinto de Sousa Coutinho, on the death of his brother inherited the house and became the fourth Viscount de Balsamao; he died on December 23d, 1862, leaving a widow, his cousin, Donna Maria da Penha Perestrello da Costa de Macedo, daughter of John Perestrello do Amaral Ribeiro de Vasconcellos Fernandes e Sousa.

this assertion. It is quite sufficient to study the lineage of the bastards of the great nobles and of the kings, sanctioned by the reception these descendants met with even under the conjugal roof; their bold presentation in public affairs; and finally the legitimation, which palliated the acts, pardoned the faults of the progenitors, and removed the taint suspended over the heads of the progeny. The brilliant dynasty that in those days presided over the destinies of

---

Portugal from the very earliest times of the monarchy, we will only select for our readers one document, which is to be found in Book 4 de Alem-Douro, page 274. It treats of the transaction effected between the King Dom Diniz and Branca Lourenza. The king gave her the city of Mirandella, motivating this gift thus: "And I do this for you as payment for your body; and should God permit that I have by you son or sons, to them shall belong the said city."

We of to-day look upon this as a dreadful case, but Dr. Francisco Brandon, who used this document in his "Monarchia Luzitana," tells us that in those times nobody was shocked by such occurrences. And, indeed, so true is this assertion that the very son and successor of the King Dom Diniz, the Infante Dom Affonso, signed this most curious paper, along with his father, as witness! Dr. Francisco Brandon makes this reflection: "The queen, Saint Isabel, only did not sign the paper, on account of the decorum that had to be observed toward her in view of the fact that the gift was bestowed upon a woman with whom the king offended against his wife." The only thing needed to complete this iniquitous piece of business would have been the signature of the queen affixed to the contract, which was signed and witnessed by no less than seven bishops, one master of the royal household, and one chancellor of the kingdom!!!

The purchase of the body of Branca Lourenza was perfectly valid through the signature of so many high dignitaries of the Roman Church, and more than guaranteed by the rubric of an Infante on the eve of becoming king!

By the way, this king, Dom Diniz, husband of Saint Isabel (Elizabeth, in whose favor the miracle of changing bread into roses was wrought), was the founder of the celebrated convent of Odivellas, near Lisbon; and with such solicitude did he watch over the welfare of the nuns that they could not even take sea baths except in his royal presence!

Portugal commenced with a bastard—one of the greatest kings who swayed the Portuguese sceptre.

Donna Branca Dias Perestrello and her sister, Donna Isabel, whom the former succeeded in her amorous relations with the archbishop, if they did not enjoy the legal rights of a wife on account of the sacerdotal character of the man to whom they linked themselves in the unbridled impulse of their heart, had nevertheless, along with a great social consideration, the commodities and the honors of a really noble house. The fruits of these unions were legally adopted, perpetuating themselves in offspring highly distinguished in every respect.

It seems that Donna Isabel died soon after the birth of her son Don John, governor of the city of Obidos, legitimized by Royal Letters Patent dated August 13th, 1444. Donna Branca, whose beauty was not inferior, according to what we read in the chronicles of the times, to that of her sister, had always lived with her and enjoyed the fraternal friendship of the archbishop, which sentiment, however, after the death of Donna Isabel, immediately changed into an affection of a different kind, a result that was to have been expected from the archbishop's well-known temperament, and the necessity he felt to procure at once a substitute for his deceased companion, with all possible conciliation of æsthetics and administrative conveniences.

Three children are known to have sprung from this union, who also were legitimized on August 13th, 1444.[1] They were: Donna

[1] The fact of ecclesiastics legitimizing their offspring was a most common one in old times. In order to give an idea of how ordinary an occurrence it was, we will cite a few among many examples: The bishops of Guarda, Dom Gonzalo, Dom John, and Dom Alvaro, legitimized a great number of children. Some of them became celebrated men. The bishop of Evora, Dom Affonso, cousin to the king, Dom Manuel, recognized as his son Dom Francisco de Portugal in the year 1515. The bishop of Oporto, Dom John d'Azevedo, did the same for Dom Manoel da Silva, besides others; and he of Vizeu, Dom John d'Abreu, legitimized Diogo Gomez d'Abreu in 1508.

There was also a considerable quantity of laymen who had children by

Isabel, to whom we shall refer anon; Dom Diogo de Noronha, Franciscan monk and afterward bishop of Lamego; and Dom Pedro de Noronha, one of the heroes of Alcacer-Ceguer and Grand Commander of the Order of San Thiago, who was on different occasions entrusted by Dom John II. with confidential missions, always acquitting himself with much judgment and proficiency. He it was who had the honor of representing the Prince Dom Affonso in his marriage with Donna Isabel, the daughter of the King of Spain, which was celebrated by proxy, and of being chosen as the Portuguese delegate in the ceremonies that took place in Rome on the consecration of Innocent VIII. to the pontificate. He settled many questions pending between his country and the Apostolic See, of which we will particularly mention the Papal Bull of the crusade for continuing the wars in Africa.

Possessed of immense wealth and high influence at court, the archbishop was most solicitous in obtaining for his children by the two Perestrello sisters the most desirable ecclesiastical and civil positions; the powerful protection of the famous prelate was theirs on every occasion.

There came, however, a moment when the prestige of the archbishop commenced to decline rapidly, and radical changes took place in his domestic regimen. Donna Branca Dias Perestrello, on the

---

nuns. These children also were legitimized. The peculiar circumstance of the mothers being inmates of a convent at conception and confinement was not considered an obstacle. Two examples will suffice for our purpose: That of Dom Antonio, son of Ruy de Sá and of Catharina de Lemos, nun of the Order of St. Bernardo; and that of Gonçalo de Barros, son of a nobleman of the same name and of Isabel Dias, also a professed nun.

The very bastards, born under the most offensive conditions of conjugal morality, enjoyed without any hindrance the benefits of legitimation. John de Noronha, married to Donna Isabel de Sousa, legitimized as son, in 1510, Diogo de Noronha, born of a slave, Catharina by name, in the domestic service of his wife. And like him did many others in identical circumstances, and sometimes in still viler ones.

eve of becoming a mother, was, without a moment's warning, banished to a convent in Coimbra by despotic order of the archbishop, and there gave birth to Donna Isabel, who in 1462 espoused the Marquis of Montemor, son of the second duke of Braganza, and one of the leaders of the nobles who revolted against the absorbing and centralizing policy of the Perfect Prince (Dom John II.).

Until then Dom Pedro de Noronha had not entirely laid aside all regard due to personal and archiepiscopal dignity ; henceforth, however, he led a most disorderly life with other women, by whom he had more children. Donna Branca, angry at being neglected and abandoned, left the convent to marry Ayres Annes de Beja, an inhabitant of Coimbra. From this union sprang a numerous progeny known as the Perestrellos de Beja.[1]

---

[1] The immoral acts of the archbishop reached such a point that the people pursued and hissed him in the streets. The government of the diocese had to be taken from him. He took refuge in Castile, from whence he returned to a certainty before August, 1444, as we conclude from the legitimation papers of his children.

The approximate period of his flight can be taken for granted as having occurred in 1439, by reason of a document of that year published in the "Elements for the History of the Government of the City of Lisbon," by our distinguished friend Freire d'Oliveira, one of the most important works of modern investigation, whose restricted title seems to detract from its value as truthful subsidy for the general history of the country. That document is a royal mandate, giving orders that "the half of the income of the archbishopric of Lisbon be applied to the payment of the debts the Archbishop Dom Pedro may have left, and the other half to matters belonging to the same archbishop," dated 8th of December, 1439.

The following biographical traits, furnished us by Pina Loureiro, are curious and interesting :

"Dom Pedro de Noronha, son of the first Count Don Alfonso Enriques de Castile and of his wife the Lady Donna Isabel, having been deprived of his estates through the turbulence of his father, took holy orders and became the third archbishop of Lisbon and prelate of great authority and respect; thus on the death of the king, Dom Duarte, he was named one of the adjuncts

On the death of his father, Bartholomew Perestrello, the youngest of the four children left by Philippone, fell to the charge of his brother and sisters; but in very early youth he obtained a position in the household of the Infante Dom John, then closely linked with that of his brother, Dom Henrique, in the African campaigns, and with the auspicious beginning of our maritime discoveries. Afterward he was created a knight of the same household.

It is, however, not very easy to state the precise nature of the services, more or less public, rendered by him in an epoch of varied and complex enterprises. In the same manner that the chroniclers of those times passed rapidly over divers personages whose names they transmitted to us for the simple reason of their relations to more prominent ones, or to a historical fact, in the same manner they refer to Bartholomew Perestrello only in a vague sort of a way as the populator and donee of the island of Porto Santo.

On account of those two grants, the principal vestiges of Bartholomew Perestrello's passage across the pages of history, which grants were conferred upon him by the Infante Dom Henrique, several writers implicitly believed him to possess the double quality of seaman and discoverer, in spite of the serious reasons advanced against such an assertion by Azurara and Barros.

---

to the government of the Infante Dom Pedro. However, in the dissensions between the queen, Donna Leonor, and Dom Pedro, he took the part of the queen at the instigation of his brother-in-law, the Duke of Braganza. Afterward he committed indecent acts unworthy of his dignity, so that the Senate of Lisbon deprived him of his emoluments and dignities. Seeing that he had lost the respect of his people, he retired to Castile, from whence he afterward returned to this kingdom to take up again the old enmity with the Infante, in whose misfortune and death he had a large share.

"He is buried in his see," of Lisbon, in the Chapel of the Sacrament, and has on his sepulchre the following inscription: "Here lies the Rev'd in Christ, priest and senhor Dom Pedro, archbishop of this city, grandson of the noble king Dom Fernando of Portugal, and grandson of the king Don Enrique of Castile, whose soul be with God; he expired on the 12th of August, 1452."

We do not doubt that he well merited the generous friendship and confidence of Dom Henrique, first of all on account of his personal qualities ; next for some of the various services which so much distinguished other men of his time, without their having been engaged in the struggles and adventures by sea. We also do not rely exclusively on the criticism that ascribes to the influence of Dom Pedro de Noronha the grants that were conferred upon him. What, however, our conscience will not permit us to accept as conclusive, partly on account of what we read in divers writings, partly in view of the purport of the documents that refer to Bartholomew, and above all in consideration of most palpable chronological contradictions, is the assertion that Bartholomew Perestrello was the discoverer of the island of Porto Santo, or an important assistant of Gonçalves Zarco and Tristan Vaz in that maritime enterprise.

Some writers, notably Don Francisco de San Luiz, assert the general practice of those days—that is to say, the fact of the governorships of the discovered lands being given to those who first discovered them—in order to ascribe the discovery of the island to Bartholomew Perestrello. Certainly this was done very often, but not so generally as to establish a rule under which Bartholomew Perestrello might come.

Jacome de Bruges, first populator and donee of the island of Teixeira, also Joz de Ultra of the island of Fayal, did not take the least part in the discovery of those two islands. Many other examples lead us to discard the idea of a general rule in the concession of governorships. We do, however, remember still another synthetic case which gives a new character to the question of the donations.

We refer to the donation which Dom Affonso V. made to Fernan Telles of the Island of Flowers,[1] the jurisdiction and governorship of which are generally considered to have first been given to Donna

[1] The Island of Flowers (Flora Island) is the birthplace of Nicolau Florentino, the savant and indefatigable searcher after truth in the history of his country, who as such has dedicated long hours of serious study to the history of the Açorian archipelago, and particularly to Flora Island.—R. M.

Maria de Vilhena, which is simply an absurdity; or it is asserted that, in spite of the unwritten law then ruling, she obtained it from Gomez Dias Rodovalho while she was the wife of Fernan Telles, and that on the death of her husband she continued the administration of the island as guardian of her minor son, Ruy Telles.[1]

The discoverers of the Island of Flowers were Diogo de Teive and his son, John de Teive; it was this latter who negotiated with Fernan Telles the sale of all his rights acquired by Royal Letters Patent of confirmation dated 28th of January, 1475. As far as we could ascertain, Fernan Telles never was in the island after he became its donee and governor, much less did he grope along that fanciful region of the Atlantic in search of the beautiful island.

Besides, the Letters Patent of the grant of Porto Santo to Bartholomew Perestrello, as well as those of the confirmation of the sale by his widow and a brother of hers, Diogo Gil Moniz, as guardians of her minor son Bartholomew, to Pedro Corrêa da Cunha, do not allude to any services which might have decided the king to make the grant, and less still do they assert any prior right of Bartholomew as discoverer. On the contrary, in the second of these documents it is distinctly stated "that he asked of me as a favor, because his desire and wish was to populate my island of Porto Santo," which statement by the king certainly does not admit even the slightest supposition of immediate rights to the aforesaid governorship.

As to having been a companion of Zarco and Tristan in the discovery, and, above all, as to having preceded them in the enterprise, chronology opposes itself to any likelihood of this historic trait of Bartholomew's being true, even if the considerations above stated did not seem to us conclusive. In 1418 Tristan was a full-grown man,

[1] Like Donna Isabel Moniz, who sold the island of Porto Santo, Donna Maria de Vilhena also sold her Island of Flowers to a John da Fonseca, with this difference, however, that the act of Donna Maria was recognized by her son as valid, while Bartholomew Perestrello No. 2 proposed and obtained the annulment of the sale effected by his mother to Dom Pedro Corrêa da Cunha.

and we all know that this is the year of the discovery of the first island of the archipelago of Madeira. Tristan was then about 33 or 34 years old, and Zarco was of the same age, or perhaps older still, as we may conclude from what John de Barros says regarding the heirs of Zarco, who disputed the glories of Tristan as not being so old a man nor of as good quality as John Gonçalves. If a difference of age, which could not be great, constituted a base for this moral strife between the representants of the two heroes, what would happen if those of Bartholomew were to litigate with those of the other two united ?

As a result of divers calculations, particularly of the epoch in which Philippone married, according to the works on nobility, and noting especially the fact that Bartholomew was the fourth child born of this union, he could not have been of more than half of Tristan's age. Besides we must not forget to calculate the very important circumstance that the third wife of Bartholomew Perestrello was a great-granddaughter, on her mother's side, of Tristan Vaz.

Bartholomew Perestrello was consequently of an unlikely age to suppose him the chief of any maritime expedition, and there is a total absence of historical dates that would prove him possessed of precocious talents for a seafaring life ; just as unlikely was it that he should have been chosen to take an equal part in the expedition commanded by Zarco and Tristan, both already celebrated in the African wars, with their reputation as daring sailors well established in the voyages to Ceuta and other northern and eastern shores of the Dark Continent.

But he did go in the company of both, drawn into the enthusiastic fanciful current of those who offered to populate Porto Santo, a new paradise, according to a merry antiphrase.

To conclude : The fame ascribed to Bartholomew Perestrello as a navigator is not founded on any single fact even, of any importance. It is quite within reason and justice to admit him to have distinguished himself in any other branch of activity of that epoch, in view of the grant made to him by the Infante, and also in view of the

cordial reception he met with from families, jealous of their blood and parchments, who yet contracted matrimonial alliances with him.

This point of old historical debate settled, let us proceed to others more intimately connected with the existence of the donee governor of the island of Porto Santo.

III.

THE ISLAND OF PORTO SANTO AND ITS COLONIZATION—LABORS AND SACRIFICES OF THE FIRST DONEE OF THAT ISLAND—BARTHOLOMEW PERESTRELLO, HIS TROUBLED LIFE, MATRIMONIAL ALLIANCES, PREMATURE DEATH, AND THE DESCENDANTS HE LEFT.

CCORDING to Azurara's chronicles, substantiated by other works, Bartholomew Perestrello remained but a short time on the island of Porto Santo, whither he had gone in company with divers individuals to colonize it, all harboring the most flattering dreams of fortune. The disenchantment of the young Bartholomew on visiting his future dominions was as great as that of many others on the islands and on the continent, who judged the largess of the royal munificence only by the much-vaunted extension of territory, by notices full of imagination as to its fertility, and by the pompous word "proprietor." Those donees understood the value of what they had obtained only when the duties and charges they had taken upon themselves reached a sum so much higher than the local income as to oblige them to reduce the cultivation on their own account in exchange for insignificant rents, or to abandon cultivation altogether; copious vestiges of the latter fact were until very recently to be met with at various points of the country.

Many people even to this day, on reading the list of donations formerly received by those who rendered public services, and the descriptive inventory of those donations, are at a loss what to admire most, the ruinous liberality of the giver or the fabulous fortune of the receiver. In the meantime, through books of receipts and

expenses, bills and registers of the epoch, and the scientific means in our possession which enable us to establish the real value of those grants in relation to the capital employed in cultivation and the agricultural and industrial product, it is easy to understand how hyperbolical in most cases were the expectations of golden interests on the part of those whose labors were rewarded with lands, governorships, etc.

Carried away by suggestions about the much-praised advantages of the discovered island, Bartholomew did not know what he asked for, whereas it is more than likely that Zarco and Tristan knew the truth. The second voyage of those two navigators is thus more rationally explained. They proposed to continue in their enterprise, after having left the colonists in Porto Santo, or at least they meant to sound and explore that part of the Atlantic, in preference to interring themselves on an island whose surface and geological conditions, although surveyed most rapidly, very likely did not attract them much, though it was so asserted in the writings of the epoch.

The immediate *discovery*[1] of Madeira, which the two divided

[1] We underline the word, because Azurara simply says that Tristan and Zarco *went over* from Porto Santo to the island of Madeira, which could be seen on clear days. On the other hand, it is also worthy of notice that the dense woods that covered the latter, through their own absorption and afterward evaporation of the humidity deposited above those woods, must have occasioned prolonged atmospheric disturbances which did not then permit Madeira to be seen from Porto Santo, like to-day.

Barros, more enlightened than Azurara, speaks of this phenomenon, although there is no contradiction between both in the essence of the fact of the discovery. On the contrary, the former explains it as follows: If sometimes the mists seemed clouds, on other occasions they indicated land; this suspicion about land being confirmed above all by the fixed position, and the appearance of the fog on occasions when all other points of the horizon were perfectly clear.

It follows, consequently, that the simple act of going from one island to the other is the one most likely to have occurred, whether the existence of the second was ascertained from Porto Santo, or only deduced from judicious

between them, and where they elected to remain, considering it a satisfactory termination of maritime excursions whose acknowledged object had been the coasts of Guinea, is of help to us in reflections quite different from those to which the text of the chroniclers would naturally restrict us.

Bartholomew was not long in recognizing that his imagination had betrayed him and that he had been excessively credulous. The comparison between Porto Santo and the new island encountered by Zarco and Tristan, incomparably superior to the first by its attractive aspect and the most promising state of vegetation, completely discouraged him.[1]

He returned to the continent most probably after the discovery of Madeira. The cause of this retreat, simultaneous with the departure of the two other companions for the second island, they themselves ascribed to a plague of rabbits that developed in the first island. The story goes that on the first voyage to the island a rabbit gave birth to many young, which were set free on arriving. In the following year—that is, if indeed a whole year elapsed between the

---

observations of the atmospheric phenomena. Could Zarco and Tristan have suspected the existence of Madeira already on their first voyage? We do not know.

Perhaps the excitement of the discovery made them return at once, like many navigators did in identical cases, without thinking of examining their find (as was the case with poor Bartholomew, who lost health and wealth by his acquisition); much less did it occur to them to prosecute their inspection of the horizon with any degree of serenity.

[1] It seems that already, on undertaking his first voyage, Bartholomew Perestrello carried with him his Letters Patent as commissary of Porto Santo, which fact in a certain sense bound him to the island, excluding any hope of being admitted to a share of the new find which Zarco and Tristan immediately divided between them, both taking good care to better define their guarantees as populators of Madeira than they did as such of Porto Santo.

If these notes admitted of a more ample development of secondary points, the companionship of Tristan and Zarco with Bartholomew would furnish matter for quite a number of pages.

arrival and the departure of Bartholomew—they, the colonists, had already killed a very great number, without, however, reducing them, to the dismay of the said colonists, whose agricultural labors were thus inutilized.

This extraordinary power of reproduction, before which zoölogy inclines itself, totally unable to explain it, does not cause us any very great astonishment. True, we are rather irreverent as to certain legends. Our ancestors, the whole world over, possessed in a high degree an ingenuity in believing, without seeing or discussing, that, taken from the point of view of spiritual hygiene, is simply to be envied in these troublesome times of malice and suspicion.

The story of the rabbits, which the mind of those good people accepted in pious silence, does not satisfy to-day. It would have been better and more truthful if they had described the island of Porto Santo, with its gravelly soil, unsuitable for cultivation of many kinds of necessary produce, and above all for the indispensable growth of wood, its want of drinking water, etc. The disagreeable impression this desert must have caused a young man used to the life of a court, and who had not even a female companion—one of the essential requisites of colonial life and the best anodyne against homesickness—along with other like causes, would have been accepted as incontrovertible as well as less puerile than a plague of rabbits developed within a year from one litter.

Now that we have logically presented this question, we comprehend the cause of Bartholomew Perestrello's return to the kingdom, from whence we notice him starting once again for the island after the lapse of a few years; this time as commissary and governor of Porto Santo, when it was more likely he really found the terrible gnawers considerably multiplied.

It is possible that his determination to return had been decided by unforeseen circumstances, such as good news about the labors there continued by his companions, the obtaining of human and monetary capital more encouraging than that he took with him in his first voyage, above all his marriage with Donna Margarida

Martins,[1] which most likely caused his immediate resolve to provide for the future at any cost.

With the neighborhood of already rapidly prospering Madeira, Porto Santo became less lonely, more attractive, encountering as it did, ready to hand, many resources that its barren local conditions could not at first supply. But the transformation and improvements through which Bartholomew's dominions passed—thanks to his almost insane efforts at most ungrateful labor, which soon undermined his health; thanks also to pecuniary sacrifices, unfortunately little else than useless—never at any time sufficed to enable the island to reach a point of economical and ethnographical autonomy that would demonstrate its efficient material and moral progress; much less did it do so in the first year of its colonization.

The colonization of Madeira was, to a certainty, one of the reasons that decided Bartholomew Perestrello to leave Lisbon once more and to repair to Porto Santo. One of many proofs is the little stability of his movements in the island where he fixed his residence, or, better said, where he kept a house.

After having settled there with his first wife, we see him often in Machico, in Funchal, and on the continent, occupied in furthering his local interests, developing a prodigious activity in procuring agricultural materials, promising almost anything for them; in at-

[1] We believe the fact of this third marriage of Bartholomew Perestrello to be new. Before consulting with the author, who hides his great knowledge of all matters genealogical (being a recognized authority in Portugal) under the *nom-de-plume* of Nicolau Florentino, we had examined various works about the Perestrellos and held conferences with the Perestrello family here in Lisbon. All supposed Bartholomew to have been married twice only, to Donna Brites and to Donna Isabel. The Very Reverend Peragallo, who wrote about Columbus and the Perestrellos, cites, on the occasion of a royal concession, a document in which Bartholomew Perestrello and his wife, Donna Margarida Martins, are mentioned; but it would seem he did not read that document, because a few lines lower down he mentions that the donee of Porto Santo was married to only two ladies, Donna Brites Furtado de Mendonça and to Donna Isabel Moniz!—R. M.

tracting immigration by furnishing the implements of husbandry; and in obtaining from the royal coffers some profitable concessions with which to pay the heavy expenses incident to the improvement of Porto Santo.

While thus bravely struggling, a painful event threw the deepest shadow over the gloom out of which he was just about to emerge.

According to one of the documents before us, we conclude that Donna Margarida Martins, his wife, could not have lived long after 1431. The last vestige we possess of the existence of this lady is a Letter Patent of Dom John I., dated July 8th, 1431, issued to her and her husband, giving them the rent of several houses in the New street, close to the Porta da Herva.

As far as we could ascertain, there were no children of this marriage. Bartholomew contracted second nuptials with Donna Brites Furtado de Mendonça, of the well-known family of that name, that also occupies a distinguished place in the history of the archipelago.

Of the second marriage three daughters are known, all wedded to men of importance. The first, Donna Catharina Furtado de Mendonça, was the wife of Mem Rodrigues de Vasconcellos, commendador of Seixo. The second, Donna Philippa de Mendonça Furtado, united her destinies with those of John Teixeira,[1] third son of Tristan Vaz, who was the first captain and proprietor (donee) of the dominion of Machico. The third, Donna Izeu de Perestrello, mar-

[1] John Teixeira, a resident of Machico, was a man much esteemed on account of his prowess as cavalier and great huntsman. He set aside a large tract of land in Caniçal, stocking it with all sorts of game, from wild boar to partridge; in a few years the game had multiplied to such a degree that the preserves could rival with the best on the continent. As soon as Dom Manoel heard of it, he wrote to the corporation of Machico, recommending them to zealously preserve the park at Caniçal; that he had been informed of its importance and of the fact that there was no other to equal it in the whole island where royalty could hunt wild beasts on the mountain or go shooting in case they visited the island some day. That letter remained registered on the books of that same corporation.

MONI

a Moniz (without issue)

Martins Moniz; marrie

Moniz, first heir of Ang
geja.

Christopher Mo- titular bishop. | Donn wif Pe

Moniz; went to zil (with issue). | Jeron

Telles de Mene- | Donna issu

wife, Donna Ma- | Franc niz; Mar

es; wife, Donna | Franc

GREE OF T

Vasco Martins Moniz (vide text).

Henrique Moniz; second wife, Donna Meneses.

Vasco Martins Moniz; third wife, Do anna Teixeira.

Egas Moniz; married Donna Maria, daughter of Affonso Rodrigues. | Lançarote Mon Donna Catha Costa (with sion extingu their childre

Duarte Moniz Barreto, first mayor of Bahia, where he married (with issue). | Henrique Moni went to Braz ried there.

ne Sawyer" (with is- | Pedro Moniz de zes; married Francisca Ne

aria de Bettencourt e | Antonio Tavare ria de Meneze

Donna Anna de Vas- | Bartholomew T

PEDIGREE OF THE MONIZ FAMILY.

Vasco Martins Moniz (vide text).

Garcia Moniz (without issue) (vide text).

Donna Leonor Moniz, second wife of Gil Ayre (vide text).

Henrique Moniz; second wife, Donna Ignez de Meneses.

Vasco Martins Moniz; married Donna Aldonsa Cabral.

Vasco Gil Moniz, gentleman-in-waiting to the Infante Dom Pedro; second wife, Donna Leonor de Lusignan, daughter of Phebo de Lusignan.

Vasco Martins Moniz; third wife, Donna Joanna Teixeira.

Jorje Moniz, first heir of Angeja, from whom descend the Marquises of Angeja.

Phebus Moniz, Head Groom of the Bedchamber of the King Dom Manuel; married Donna Maria da Cunha, daughter of Gonçalvo Corrêa.

Francisco Manuel Moniz; second wife, Donna Maria Favilla.

Henrique Moniz de Menezes, married Donna Ignez de Gamacho.

Philippe Moniz; wife, Donna Francisca da Costa.

Egas Moniz; married Donna Maria, daughter of Affonso Rodrigues.

Lançarote Moniz; wife, Donna Catharina da Costa (with succession extinguished in their children).

Dom Christopher Moniz, titular bishop.

Donna Isabel Moniz, wife of *Bartholomew Perestrello.*

Many others who became monks and nuns.

Jeronymo Moniz, Groom of the Bedchamber of Dom John III.; married Donna Violante da Silva, daughter of John de Saldanha and Donna Joanna da Silva.

Francisco Manuel Moniz; wife, Donna Perpetua de Mendonça.

Antonio Moniz Barreto (with issue).

Donna Joanna; married Braz Espindola (with issue).

Duarte Moniz Barreto, first mayor of Bahia, where he married (with issue).

Henrique Moniz Telles; went to Brazil, married there.

Diogo Moniz; went to Brazil (with issue).

Jeronymo Moniz; went to Brazil (with issue).

Phebus Moniz; married Donna Isabel de Lima, daughter of Dom Pedro de Castello Branco, proprietor of the Entail of Torres. (Vide text.)

Francisco Moniz de Menezes; wife, Donna Genebra de Castro e Brito.

Diogo Moniz, called "the Sawyer" (with issue in Funchal).

Pedro Moniz de Menezes; married Donna Francisca Netto.

John Telles de Menezes.

Donna Joanna Manuel de Menezes (without issue).

Jeronymo Moniz de Lusignan, Commander of the Order of Christ; served in Tangiers; married Donna Elvira de Alarcon, widow of Sebastian da Silva.

Luiz Telles de Menezes; lived in Santa Cruz; married his cousin, Donna Maria de Bettencourt e Freitas, heiress of John de Bettencourt e Freitas.

Antonio Tavares de Menezes; wife, Donna Maria de Menezes.

Francisco Manuel Moniz; wife, Donna Maria Corrêa.

Pedro Moniz de Menezes (with issue).

Phebus Moniz de Torres e Lusignan; married Donna Filippa Coutinho, daughter of André Gonçalves Ribafria and Donna Luiza de Albuquerque. Those Ribafrias are the founders of the Counts of Penamacor.

John de Bettencourt e Freitas, who killed a judge in Santa Cruz; married Donna Anna de Vasconcellos, daughter of Belchior Tavares de Sousa.

Bartholomew Telles de Menezes; wife, Donna Luiza Espindola.

Francisco de Menezes Barreto; married Donna Marianna Telles de Menezes, daughter of Braz Moniz.

Donna Luiza Moniz de Torres e Lusignan.

Pedro Nicolau Bettencourt, Judge of Reridous; married Donna Andrea Acchioly.

Donna Mecia de Bettencourt e Freitas; married (with issue).

Pedro Moniz de Menezes.

Belchior Moniz de Menezes.

Antonio Moniz Tavares de Menezes; married Donna Jacintha Rosa, daughter of Luiz Mendes da Camara.

Manuel de Sampaio, eleventh heir of Villa of Flor; died May 14th, 1696; second wife, Donna Joanna Luiza de Noronha, daughter of John de Saldanha.

John José de Bettencourt de Freitas e Menezes (with issue).

Donno Joanna (without issue).

Donna Guiomar, nun in Sta Clara.

Francisco Roque Moniz de Menezes; married his cousin Donna Anna, daughter of Braz Moniz Barreto (with succession, extinguished).

Francisco José de Sampaio, twelfth heir of Villa Flor, Field Marshal General and Viceroy of India, where he died July 13th, 1723; married June 15th, 1698, Donna Jeronyma de Borbon, daughter of Don Antonio de Almeida, second count of Avintas.

Manuel Antonio de Sampaio, born June 17th, 1699; thirteenth heir of Villa Flor. Captain of Horse at Court, and Commander of various orders; married, June 8th, 1713, his cousin, Donna Victoria de Borbon, Lady-in-Waiting at the Court, daughter of Don Luiz de Almeida, third Count of Alvintes.

Antonio de Sampaio Mello Castro Moniz e Torres de Lusignan, born April 26th, 1720; fourteenth heir of Villa Flor, Villas Boas, Villa de Moz, Chacim, Sampaio, Bemposta, and Parada do Pinhan; created first Count of Sampaio December 18th, 1764; married, February 27th, 1750, Donna Thereza Violante Eva Judith de Daun, daughter of the first Marquis de Pombal.

Manuel Antonio de Sampaio Mello Castro Moniz Torres de Lusignan, first Marquis and second Count of Sampaio, born June 30th, 1762; first wife, in December, 1783, Donna Joaquina Maria Rita José Eustaquia de Mello, daughter of the first Marquis of Sabugosa; second wife, in 1763, Donna Maria Iguez de Albuquerque Mendonça Furtado, his cousin, heiress of John de Sampaio Mello e Castro.

Donna Violante Maria Rita de Sampaio e Albuquerque de Mendonça Furtado Mello e Castro Moniz Torres de Lusignan, third Countess of Sampaio, Lady-in-Waiting to the Queens Donna Maria II. and Donna Estephania, Lady of the Order of Saint Isabel; married her uncle, Antonio Luiz de Sampaio Mello e Castro, who was Colonel of Cavalry, Peer of the Kingdom, Gentleman-in-Waiting to the Princess Donna Maria Francisca and to the Infanta Donna Isabel Maria.

Manuel Antonio de Sampaio e Albuquerque de Mendonça Furtado de Mello Castro Moniz e Torres de Lusignan, fourth Count and second Marquis of Sampaio. Peer of the Kingdom, first gentleman of the Royal Household; first wife, Donna Maria da Luz de Carvalho Daun e Lorena, daughter of the third Count da Redinha; second wife, Donna Maria Alexandrina de Portugal Barros e Vasconcellos (without issue in second nuptials).

Antonio Pedro Maria da Luz de Sampaio e Albuquerque de Mendonça Furtado Mello e Castro Moniz Torrea de Lusignan, actual fifth Count of Sampaio; married (with issue).

ried Pedro Corrêa da Cunha,[1] captain and donee of the island of Graciosa, to whom we will have to refer again later on.

Once again a widower, Bartholomew Perestrello, who was still a relatively young man, contracted third nuptials with Donna Isabel Moniz, daughter of Vasco Martins Moniz, who at that time lived in Machico in grand style, as we observed when we wrote of the Monizes.

This new alliance, the most distinguished of all, and directly connected with the thread of our history, puts in evidence the moral importance of Bartholomew, as well as the confidence inspired by the seriousness of his demeanor and the devotion to his work. Only those who waded through the old documents and thus acquired a knowledge of the pride in their nobility of the Monizes, who were sought in alliance by the best houses of Madeira and the continent—those only can fully appreciate the conviction and assurance with which we trace this biographical note.

Donna Isabel, to judge from the age of her brothers and sisters, must have been at most eighteen years old when she left the paternal roof, where she was surrounded by every possible comfort, to follow her husband to the island of Porto Santo. There she was his devoted companion during the few years of life still allotted to him.

We have said somewhere that Bartholomew did not know what he asked for when he stipulated for this reward of his services rendered the Infante Dom John. Of active and enterprising spirit, he thought he could manage to cover the rocks and sands of Porto Santo with a layer of soil deep enough to transform them into orchards that should give him fruit and shade in his old age. He was mistaken, as many others were who obscurely exhausted themselves in trying to fertilize pieces of land almost lost sight of in the immen-

[1] Pedro Corrêa da Cunha was a son of Gonçalo Corrêa, a rich nobleman of the time of Dom John, to whom this monarch by Letters Patent of December 22d, 1411, gave in exchange of the lands of Valladares those of Cunha-a-Velha, from whence the son and his descendants took the surname of Cunha.

sity of the ocean. Many never again knew what it was to enjoy life, nor could they make any provision whatsoever for their widows and children.

How many people there may have been, and are still, who associate Bartholomew's name and memory with the typical, current idea of a feudal lord, arrayed in vestments of Oriental richness, lazily lifting his eye in order to command, by lavish expenditure of gold, all the luxury and voluptuousness a great imagination instigated by a sensual temperament can suggest !

Unfortunate Bartholomew Perestrello ! Unfortunate in the struggles of life as well as in the anything but respectful manner history treated his name. The glory of having casually encountered a mountain rising out of mid-ocean was all !—was all, even in the face of thirty years' herculean labor to change the surface of that mountain, to improve it, to fertilize it with the sweat of his brow and many times with his own blood!

This strange conception of means most apt to contribute to individual glorification is cruelly exemplified in the historical outlines of the donee of Porto Santo. With useless obstinacy years and years were spent in trying to find in the misty pages of the chroniclers one word, one syllable, that might give force to the supposition that he was one of those who first traversed the hundred and odd leagues dividing Lisbon from the Madeiran archipelago.

In order to declare him a nobleman it was invented that he came to Portugal from Spain in 1428 with the wife of Dom Duarte, and immediately afterward it was asserted that he was a companion of Zarco and of Tristan in the discovery of Porto Santo in 1418 ; when all that is most sure in respect to his nobility is the verified declaration made by his father, Philippone Palestrello, in 1399. In order to glorify him as a navigator, the flight of fancy reached the point of declaring him the possessor of charts and manuscripts he left to his son-in-law Columbus, along with advice as to how to use them ; when it is clearly proved that he never knew the man whom his daughter Philippa was eventually to marry, he dying when she was five years old.

In short, for the purpose of getting for Bartholomew two lines of panegyric more to the taste of his successors than to his own, taking into account his toilsome life, it was necessary to make him out as of noble birth, and principally to characterize him as a navigator, according to the fashion predominant in the epoch in which he lived.

They thought it best to erect on sand a pedestal of glories, while never an eye did they cast upon his life, full of struggles and labors; whereas the resignation with which he bore difficulties and disappointments, and the constancy and high-mindedness he evinced in his labors, are much surer titles to our admiration than the casual fact they tried to attribute to him.

The palm of having discovered his island does not belong to the first governor and donee of Porto Santo, but he possesses the legitimate right to put on his head the halo of a martyr of labor—a most valiant social consecration in all times and epochs.

Death surprised him at his post in the year 1457, he being then little over 50 years old; he left his family in precarious pecuniary circumstances, since the governorship of his island absorbed everything, from the marriage portions of his wives, the donations he obtained in different ways from the crown, down to his own health; so much capital sunk there not returning sufficient for the modest maintenance of his widow and their two children, Bartholomew and Philippa, left fatherless in their tenderest age.

Bartholomew Perestrello died in the city of Baleira, on the island of Porto Santo, and, as far as can be ascertained from most trustworthy sources, it seems he was buried in the parish church of Our Lady of Pity.

IV.

DONNA ISABEL MONIZ GUARDIAN OF HER CHILDREN—THE SALE OF PORTO SANTO TO PEDRO CORRÊA—A FAMILY QUESTION—THE COMING OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS TO MADEIRA—THE EPOCH OF HIS BIRTH—HIS ORIGIN AND NATIONALITY—MARRIAGE OF COLUMBUS AND DONNA PHILIPPA MONIZ DE MELLO—THE OBSCURE LIFE OF THE MARRIED PAIR—THE BIRTH OF THEIR ONLY SON—DEATH OF DONNA PHILIPPA.

OVERTAKEN by widowhood, Donna Isabel Moniz hesitated but a short time between the remembrance of her husband that bound her to Porto Santo, and the impossibility of remaining in the governorship, where she had to provide for her own support as well as that of her two children by administration work altogether beyond her strength as a woman—work which had cost the unfortunate Bartholomew so very dear.

The eldest child, who was christened after his father, had just reached his seventh year, and the little sister, Philippa, counted two years less than he. True, Donna Isabel had been named guardian of her son during his minority, jointly with her brother, Diogo Gil Moniz, who was to administrate with her the governorship for her son and heir; but this brother, much occupied with his own affairs, that obliged him often to absent himself, had little time to devote to the exigencies of a guardianship that could not dispense the energetic presence of a man.

Under such imperative circumstances Donna Isabel Moniz left

Porto Santo and returned with her children to Machico, where she installed herself in the house of her father, Vasco Martins Moniz, who was always keenly alive to the interests of his beloved daughter during her husband's life, and who gladly sheltered her and her children in her widowhood, providing for them with his fortune and the treasures of his loving heart.

If until then the cultivation of Porto Santo did not commend itself by its results, in spite of having at its head a man of the nervous temperament of Bartholomew Perestrello, failing he or a substitute with at least half his painstaking and daring energy the island would infallibly become more unproductive still—a gulf, absorbing every care and money.

Fearing these negative results, that would have not only rendered the present situation much worse, but would, above all, have put in jeopardy the future of her son, Donna Isabel obtained the consent of the other tutor to sell the governorship to Pedro Corrêa da Cunha, brother-in-law of the minor heir, Corrêa having been, as we have already stated, married to Donna Izeu Perestrello, a daughter of Bartholomew's second marriage.

The price of this transaction is stated to have been three hundred thousand reis in gold, paid at once, and an annuity of thirty thousand reis. There exists, however, another version about this sale. The Infante Dom Henrique, in consenting to the transfer by Royal Letter dated May 17th, 1458, mentions a yearly allowance of ten thousand reis: " . . . the aforesaid island, whose jurisdiction is mine, to my pleasure it was arranged on the part of the aforesaid young man and Pedro Corrêa, noble of my household, according to the latter's showing, in such manner that the aforesaid Pedro Corrêa leaves to the aforesaid young man ten thousand reis which he had from me every year as pension on account of his marriage, a thousand dobras, each dobra being worth one hundred and twenty reis, according to the money value of this kingdom."

Dom Affonso V. ratified the deed of his uncle on August 17th, 1459.

Free from care after the transfer of the governorship of Porto Santo, Donna Isabel Moniz, who was at that time little over 25 years old, refused every new affection and dedicated herself exclusively to the education of her children. The elements at her command in her father's house must have been of the greatest assistance to her in her task, because everybody of distinction in the army frequented her father's hospitable mansion, as did also men of literary attainments quite notable for those times.

Raised among such surroundings, the young Bartholomew soon demonstrated his valor and inclination for a military life by joining the Portuguese forces then fighting in Africa, where Portugal was engaged in continual warfare, either for the ambitious purpose of new conquests, or from necessity in order to maintain the dominion already conquered against local insurrections.

Although the personal means at Donna Isabel's command were very limited, she made every sacrifice in order that her son should want nothing that might be of use to him in the uncertainty of the fortune he was in search of. She took pride in his presenting himself fully armed and equipped, including other more or less costly accessories with which it was customary to demonstrate the noble and rich descent of the young men who went to serve their country and king.

Bartholomew Perestrello came to court under the protection of the influential relations of his grandfather, Vasco Moniz, and the sympathetic memory of his father. He at once embarked on a fleet that was about to sail for Larache just as he arrived in Lisbon.[1]

---

[1] In order not to make these notes more voluminous than the text itself, we omit reference to many documents which we may perhaps publish after having concluded the book from which we extract the present smaller work. However, as a specimen of the progress in nautical science of that epoch, we give integral the opinion about the shortest way the ships ought to take for Larache:

"SIRE:—I spoke with the pilots who are in this city studying the route to take to the Cape of Santa Maria. Sire, Larache is situated to the southeast

Returning to Madeira after an absence of about five years, instigated by another brother-in-law, Mem Rodrigues de Vasconcellos, he commenced suit against Pedro Corrêa for the annulment of the deed of sale of Porto Santo given by his mother and his uncle, Diogo Moniz. Thanks to efficient means employed by Mem Rodrigues, the suit was decided in favor of Bartholomew, and this latter reinstated in his governorship by an order dated March 15th, 1473, he to repay his brother-in-law, with the income derived from the island, the sums already received up to date, according to the stipulations of the respective contract.[1]

Donna Isabel Moniz, with much reason, must have been greatly annoyed and offended by this sudden and somewhat exceptional act of her son, who, quite forgetting the many sacrifices she had made for him, allowed himself to be led, by the revengeful suggestions of Mem Rodrigues against Pedro Corrêa, to disavow in such a formal manner the acts of her guardianship, instead of hastening to clasp her in filial embrace on his so much sighed and prayed-for return.

Many widows, not possessing the means necessary, or not being

---

and Cale to the southwest, as also Azamor. We must sail toward the south six leagues to windward of Anafé, and if Your Highness desires that your fleet continue to go windward, it will be necessary to navigate a quarter to the southeast and take Cape Camelo, which is twelve leagues distant from Azamor, and when in a hundred fathoms of water the bottom must be well sounded; after having done so, the fleet must continue on to Azamor, and as soon as that city is sighted calm weather will have to be waited for, good wind and favorable tide, in order to enter the port.

"The pilots: John Rua, John Gonçalves, Gonsalo Pinto, Antonio d'Oliveira, Simon Lourenço, etc."

[1] We find no proofs whatever that Pedro Corrêa da Cunha fixed his residence in Porto Santo during the time of his governorship, nor that he did so in Graciosa, of which island he was donee, though some writers assert that he did depart for that island in 1485. On the contrary, the only thing positive we find is that he lived on his farm in Charneca, near Lisbon, where he died in 1499. We also find nothing to justify the epithet of adventurer applied to Pedro Corrêa, any more than the fame of navigator that was attributed to him.

able to overcome other difficulties in order to administer properties held in trust for minor sons, did as Donna Isabel did—that is, they converted the property into a more or less equivalent sum, which sum, if it did not admit of complete pecuniary ease, at least represented a net income free from any charge whatsoever. Even in special cases of which we know, where the import of the sale turned out a good bargain for the buyer only, or this import had been diverted from its legitimate purpose, the first act of the sons on attaining their majority was to declare their entire conformity with the acts of the guardians, and to petition the king to declare them valid, thus providing against any claims that might have been set up by future heirs.

Thus we are in a position to thoroughly appreciate the great displeasure of Donna Isabel, as well as the high influences that induced Dom Affonso V. to reconsider in 1473 his act of confirmation in 1459.

After this anything but affectionate conduct Bartholomew Perestrello and his mother separated, the latter possessing only one compensation for the many and pertinacious troubles of her life, in her daughter, Donna Philippa, whose affectionate love had mitigated the longings for the son during the hazards of his African life; she found herself once more alone with her in this contemptible family intrigue.

Donna Philippa Moniz de Mello was then about 21 years of age. It is hardly likely that even in the golden flights of fancy of that age she should ever have conceived the thought of becoming the chosen of the heart of a man to whom fate reserved a historical importance and a universal name, such as he himself, to a certainty, was far from imagining in the professional obscurity of his early years.

We refer to Christopher Columbus, who in 1474 came to Madeira,[1]

---

[1] The epoch of Columbus' arrival varies according to different writers from 1470 to 1474, this latter date prevailing, as much in view of many facts

brought along in the great current of his countrymen, the Spinolas, Cezares, Uzadamari, Cataneos, Salvagos, Lomellinos, Dorias, Grimaldi, etc.—a current derived, above all, during the middle and the end of the fifteenth century, from the shores of Italy to that archipelago, and from thence to the continent.

Just as they did, so did Columbus come in search of fortune to Portugal, of the attractions of which, for the peoples of Europe, we have already treated with all possible extension in a preceding chapter. Belonging to a workingman's family, cradled in the valley of Fontanabuona, on the confines of Genoa, the celebrated navigator was born near the city of that name, where his father, Domenico Colombo, had already resided in 1430, following his business of a weaver of woollen goods, which was the means of livelihood of almost all the members of that family, including the self-same Christopher Columbus, before leaving for Portugal.[1]

Pecuniary reverses or the necessity of procuring means for the voyage of the son, or both motives jointly, obliged Domenico to sell, in 1473, one or two houses he possessed in Genoa, he living that year with his family in Savona, where Christopher figures for the last time as witness in a law deed of August 7th of that year.

At the time of his arrival here he was 38 years of age—or 28, if we accept on the one hand the assertion of André Bernaldes that Columbus, his friend and guest at the time of his death in 1506, was 70 years old ; or if, on the other hand, we uphold more confidingly the modern investigations giving the Admiral as born in 1446.

Once landed in Madeira, the daring Genoese immediately set about getting acquainted with the important families of the archipelago, through his compatriots already established. He insinuated himself by his sympathetic manners, his fluent speech, which many took for proof of great instruction, and finally by his taking advan-

---

of his life that cannot be given space in these notes, considering their special object, as well as in view of facts the reader will soon learn.

[1] The proofs of this assertion consist in documents in which he appears as witness, with declaration of this business being his occupation.

tage of the fraternal predisposition of the Portuguese toward the Italian immigrants, who were much liked, whether in the ordinary occupations of life, acquiring the good-will of the chiefs of families, or in the amorous adventures and most beautiful progeny, as far as the young female portion of the inhabitants went, who looked despairingly on the gallant Portuguese youth going off to Africa to die there unmarried, or to come back with hair whitened by the hardships of ocean and battlefield.

The very Donna Philippa Moniz de Mello, of whom it is said she was a very handsome young girl, demonstrated the case in the alliance of the Monizes and Perestrellos, already mixed with the blood of the Teixeiras ; and this rapid incidental sketch of Donna Philippa, made by a genealogist, reveals to us a marriage of simple affection contracted with Christopher Columbus.

In spite of all researches, we could find not one clear and well-defined reference to any marriage portion she might have received or properly inherited from her father. And what could old Bartholomew have left her, he who buried all his substance in Porto Santo ? The mother, Donna Isabel Moniz, saw herself forced to take refuge under the paternal roof, in order to be able to properly raise and educate the two orphans ; the grandfather, old Vasco Moniz, although very rich, had no less than sixteen children, enough to make him poor ; lastly, as far as we could ascertain, the royal coffers also did not open to animate the future of that sympathetic couple.

It is, however, possible that in some recess, to which we could get as yet no access, there might be found some facts that would modify our opinion. Should they be discovered, it would be one sad impression the less that the contemplation of the domestic life of Donna Philippa Moniz and her husband causes us.

On the other hand, what did Christopher Columbus bring from Genoa ? If anything came to him from the product of the sale effected by his father on the eve of Christopher's departure for Portugal, little could be left, over and above the travelling expenses, for his maintenance at first until fortune should smile upon him or open

some way or other for earning a living. The fact is that he must have worked hard either to sustain himself while alone, or to provide, however poorly, for the indispensable exigencies of his married life. Did he draw sea maps and charts? Where did he learn to do so? Did he open a shop or a boarding house? Did he exercise any other branch of activity that one could conjecture or discover? This is certainly an important question for the study of Christopher Columbus the discoverer of America, but of very secondary order for Christopher Columbus the husband of Donna Philippa Moniz de Mello.

In the simple poverty in which the two present themselves to us, we see them attracted by a mutual affection which the bands of wedlock consecrated in 1475, most probably.[1] The religious act was celebrated in Machico, and it seems that the young couple went immediately, in company with Donna Isabel, to live in Funchal, residence preferred by Columbus, because he thus remained in direct contact with the whole maritime movement.[2]

In 1476 Diogo Columbus was born, the only fruit of this union, the little fecundity of which has been to us an object of some reflection, when we consider the healthy stock both Donna Philippa and

---

[1] As regards several dates, we fully agree with the conscientious work of the erudite academician, Don José Maria Asensio: "The remains of Christopher Columbus are in Havana. Seville, 1881."

[2] Porto Santo also claims the glory of having been the temporary residence of Christopher Columbus. We cannot find any cause that could have attracted him to that place. Both mother-in-law and wife had nothing to do there with the governorship from 1458 to 1473, on account of the former having sold it to Pedro Corrêa; and it was certainly not likely that after the latter date, when the sentence of annulment of the sale effected by Donna Isabel had been passed in favor of her son, she should have asked hospitality of that son.

Columbus, rather irreverently compared to Christ, the Saviour, by some enthusiasts, was, in spite of his colossal historical proportions, altogether too small for the many places that claim to be his cradle, his residence, and his grave.

Columbus sprang from, as well as a few facts several writers hint at with regard to the epoch of that lady's death.

In Pina Loureiro's genealogical work, whose twenty-eight volumes have been most useful to us, we see the confirmation of our suspicion that the death of Columbus' wife must have followed quite close upon the birth of her son. Before the name of Donna Philippa is to be read the summary notice, "that she did not live long after the birth of her son." Did she die in childbed? Did she enjoy only a few days or weeks of the ineffable happiness of being a mother?

This species of revelation, which by itself cannot define an epoch, contains a fact in the life of Columbus that has a certain logical value in turning that life less vague, which has much impressed us. This fact consists in the departure of the daring navigator for the Arctic regions in 1477.

We observe Columbus got married in 1475, had a son born to him in 1476, and left for a most dangerous voyage in 1477, there existing no known engagements of any kind, or plans conceived and matured beforehand. The rapid succession of the three facts has a something of mystery about it, on account of the precipitation of the latter. Reason and heart alike refuse to believe that the peaceful life of Columbus and Donna Philippa, who saw their union blessed and their poor home gladdened by the birth of a son, should, in the very year following this event, be rudely disturbed by a long separation, without a sudden and powerful motive.

The above transcribed phrase, and the fact of this rather violent separation, concur in perfect harmony in fixing the epoch of Donna Philippa's death as between the birth of the son and the voyage of her husband to the northern seas.

The grandmother of the little boy-child was to take the place of the mother, substituting her love and care for that of which death deprived the poor infant all too soon. The father, profoundly wounded in his passionate attachment to his wife, took one of those extreme resolutions in which great moral sufferings sometimes end.

However this may be, it is undeniable that Donna Philippa died very young. Even if we were to admit the supposition that she lived up to 1484, at which epoch Christopher Columbus went to Spain, she would not have been above 30 years old. But we have very good grounds for believing that she only attained to the age of 25 years.

And very early it was to die, particularly when the future, with its inscrutable secrets, reserved to her husband days of fame and fortune, to part of which she was entitled as compensation for privations suffered through the pertinacious misfortunes of her father, as well as through the love she bore the man to whom, though he was as poor as she herself, she united her destinies.

Donna Philippa Moniz de Mello died in Funchal, and, to judge from various indications, she was buried in the parish church of that same city.[1]

---

[1] Columbus' life in Portugal, as well as that of his family, was always represented more or less romantically, even by the only ones who could have furnished sure and true dates so as to reconstitute it. On this chaos, however, some light is beginning to dawn. From his own autobiographical writings, from those attributed to Don Fernando, his bastard offspring, and from the declarations of Don Diogo Columbus, his legitimate son, many points are to-day documentally established, forcing us at the same time to reserve our opinion about others upon which history has not yet pronounced a veredictum.

The legend of his love in Lisbon, the death of his wife in that city, and her sepulture in a chapel of the monastery of the Carmo—all this is so disjointed from the great chain of epochs, persons, places, and verified facts that no great effort is needed to overthrow it altogether.

Moreover, we tried to find out if, perhaps, the mortal remains of Donna Philippa had been transferred from Madeira to that convent. There is no notice whatever of any such thing, although the registers of burials are, up to to-day, still tolerably complete. Perhaps this version has its origin in the fact that there still exists the chapel of "Nossa Senhora da Piedade," founded by Gil Ayres, married to Donna Leonor Moniz, of the distinguished family of Columbus' mother-in-law.

PEDIGREE OF COLUMBUS.

Emerico Colombo
married and had issue :

Giovanni Colombo
married and had issue :

Domenico Colombo
married to Susanna Fontanarossa, daughter of Giacomo Fontarossa, and had issue :

Christopher Columbus,
married to Donna Philippa Moniz de Mello, daughter of Bartholomew Perestrello and of Donna Isabel Moniz, and had issue :

Don Diogo Colon,
born 1476, in the island of Madeira, first Marquis of Jamaica and first Duke of Veragua, married to Donna Maria de Toledo y Rojas. Had issue.

WORKS CONSULTED.

Manuscripts and published works by Viscount Sanches de Baena.

Various documents in the archives of the Torre do Tombo in Lisbon.

"Genealogical Studies," by Pina Loureiro (the original rubricated by the author).

"Coroa da Nobreza d'Italia," by Pedro Crescente.

"Historia Genealogica" and other works by Dom Antonio Caetano de Sousa.

"Nobiliario" and other works by Dom Francisco Piferrer.

"Non plus ultra da Nobreza da Madeira," by J. A. P. d'Agrella (original).

"Historical Studies," by Manoel Pinheiro Chagas.

"Los Restos de Cristoval Colon están en la Habana," by Don José Maria Asensio.

"De la Decouverte de l'Amérique," by Luciano Cordeiro.

"As Saudades da Terra," by Dr. Gaspar Fructuoso, with notes by Dr. Alvaro Rodrigues de Azevedo.

"Vie et Voyages de Christophe Colomb," by J. Girardin.

"Genealogical Studies," by Alao de Moraes.

"Genealogical Studies," by Affonso de Torres.

"Genealogical Manuscript" (original), by A. Feo C. de Castello Branco.

"Genealogias," by M. Tenreiro de Mello e Simas (original).

"Chronicas of Portuguese Kings."

And many other historical books, national as well as foreign.

/ERNORS AND I

Gabriele Palestrello

Philippone Palestrello a

Bartholomew Perestrello, *first*

Second wife, Donna Brites Furtado de Mend

Iendonça Furtado, wife of h issue).

Donna Izeu Per da Cunha (wit

Bartholomew Perestrello, *third* Donee o

ted for having without any s Donee.

Manuel Perestr died quite old

rs of May 29th, 1545; married Donna Joanna

nuel Soares Perestrello; married to Donna ved separated from her (without issue).

chior Perestrello da Ca- nara.
ese two brothers went to India in the ship St. nd died there.

Balthasar Pere mara.

i Donee and governor of Porto Santo by roya

court Vasconcellos; studied could not obtain his degree, guilty of the death of Pedro donça. March 8th, 1680; mar- nna Theresa Maria Heredia

Paulo Freire d cellos; marr Sousa e Arag

tten- Victorianno Betten- court.

Mathias Bette

PEDIGREE OF THE GOVERNORS AND DONEES OF THE ISLAND OF PORTO SANTO.

Gabriele Palestrello and his wife, Bartholine Biforte.

Philippone Palestrello and his wife, Donna Catherina de Mello.

Bartholomew Perestrello, *first* Donee of Porto Santo, married three times:

First wife, Donna Margarida Martins (no children).

Second wife, Donna Brites Furtado de Mendonça.

Third wife, Donna Isabel Moniz.

Donna Catharina Furtado de Mendonça, wife of Mem Rodrigues de Vascouncellos (with issue).

Donna Philippa de Mendonça Furtado, wife of John Teixeira (with issue).

Donna Izeu Perestrello, wife of Pedro Corrêa da Cunha (with issue).

Bartholomew Perestrello, *second* Donee of Porto Santo; married to Donna Guiomar Teixeira.

Donna Philippa Moniz de Mello, married to Christopher Columbus, discoverer of America; who was created first Admiral, Viceroy, and Commander-in-Chief of the West Indies.

Bartholomew Perestrello, *third* Donee of Porto Santo, married twice:

First wife, Donna Alonsa da Camara.

Second wife, Donna Solana Texeira, his cousin.

Don Diogo Colon, born in the Island of Madeira in 1476; first Marquis of Jamaica and first Duke of Veragua; died in 1526, was married to Donna Maria de Toledo y Rojas (with issue).

Garcia Perestrello; married Donna Maria Taveira, and was decapitated for having without any reason killed his wife; he never was recognized on that account as Donee.

Manuel Perestrello died quite old, without issue.

Jeronymo Perestrello; married a Donna Elvira; died without issue.

Donna Francisca Perestrello; married to John Rodriquez Colaço (with issue).

Diogo Soares Perestrello, *fourth* Donee of Porto Santo by royal letters of May 29th, 1545; married Donna Joanna de Castro.

Ambrosio Perestrello, Carmelite monk.

Two daughters, nuns in the Convent of the Incarnation.

Diogo Taveira Perestrello Biforti, *fifth* Donee of Porto Santo by royal letter of July 18th, 1576; married Donna Maria da Camara.

Manuel Soares Perestrello; married to Donna Maria Lobo; lived separated from her (without issue).

André Soares Perestrello (without issue).

Donna Joanna de Castro Perestrello; married (had issue).

Duarte Martins Tavares in 1578

Donna Francisca Perestrello, *sixth* Donee of Porto Santo by royal letter of January 24th, 1653; married November 22d, 1617, Victorine Bettencourt de Vasconcellos, who died in May, 1653; she died in 1650.

Belchior Perestrello da Camara.

Balthasar Perestrello da Camara.

These two brothers went to India in the ship St. Filippe in 1604, and died there.

Donna Maria Perestrello, whom her father killed while she was still unmarried.

Gaspar Perestrello; had with Maria de Miranda an illegitimate son, who also had illegitimate issue.

Donna Fé Perestrello; married January 7th, 1625, John Baptista Achyolys (without issue).

Donna Antonia Perestrello; married (issue).

Donna Catharina Perestrello; married Affonso Vaz da Corte (without issue).

Diogo de Bettencourt Perestrello, born in 1618, in September, *seventh* Donee and governor of Porto Santo by royal letters of December 23d, 1653; married Donna Luiza Agostinha de Noronha.

Stephen Bettencourt Perestrello de Vasconcellos, *eighth* and last Donee and Governor of Porto Santo by royal letters of 21st May, 1682; married in Machico Donna Jacintha de Mendonça Vasconcellos, daughter of Matheus de Mendonça Vasconcellos.

Victoriano Bettencourt Vasconcellos; studied in Coimbra, but could not obtain his degree, for having been guilty of the death of Pedro Furtado de Mendonça. March 8th, 1680; married in 1687 Donna Theresa Maria Heredia (with issue).

Paulo Freire de Noronha Bettencourt Vasconcellos; married in Calheta Donna Angela de Sousa e Aragon (with issue).

Donna Clara Maria do Desterro Bettencourt Vasconcellos, nun in the Convent of Sta Clara.

Donna Bernardina Bettencourt (without issue).

John Bettencourt Perestrello; died very young.

Diogo Bettencourt Favilla Perestrello.

John Freire Bettencourt da Camara.

Victorianno Bettencourt.

Mathias Bettencourt.

Nicolau Bettencourt.

Donna Maria de Camara e Noronha Bettencourt.

Donna Clara Bettencourt.

Donna Luiza Bettencourt.

Os Faiz Souveniz.

1893.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
0 011 642 674 2

Coat-of-Arms
of the
Moniz Family.